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Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Chairman of Korean Federation of Industries and party

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun received a delegation led by Mr Chang Soo Huh, Chairman of the Korean Federation of Industries of the Republic of Korea, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

Also present at the call together with Vice-President U Nyan Tun were Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan and departmental heads.

At the call, both sides had a cordial discussion on carrying out of potential investment in Myanmar, matters of strengthening bilateral cooperation in industrial sector of the two countries.—MNA

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun cordially greeting Mr Chang Soo Huh, Chairman of the Federation of Industries of the Republic of Korea.—MNA



Former England player John Burns trains Myanmar U-12 players

YANGON, 19 Sept—Former England selected player and former Liverpool player John Burns arrived in Myanmar with the assistance of Digicel Co

which is giving sponsorship to Myanmar Football Federation. This morning, the former England player started to provide training on basic football techniques

to Myanmar youth footballers.

On his four-day schedule from 18 to 21 September, John Burns is giving training to the

Myanmar players in two sessions the morning and the afternoon.

He trains 70 players already selected from the MFF Digicel Cup U-12 football tournament (lower Myanmar) that finished on 17 September. In the afternoon, John gave lectures on football theory to 40 football coaches including assistant coaches from football clubs of Myanmar National League and coaches from basic education schools.

Former English Premier League player John Burns had joined EPL clubs namely Liverpool, New Castle, Charlton and Watford. In his capacity as England selected player, John scored 11 goals in 79 matches.

Kyemon



Free health care services provided to people

YANGON, 19 Sept—With the sponsorship of Yangon North District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Health Department, a team led by physician Dr Maung Maung Than gave free medical treatment to 246 patients at Aungzeya Min Orphanage Monastic Education Post-Primary School in Ale Village

of Hlinethaya Township, Yangon North District, on 9 September.

Chairperson of Yangon North District MCWSC Daw Hnin Thanda Oo and members, Chairperson of Township MCWA Daw Mya Mya Aye and members, Head of Township Health Department Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Khin

Yupa Soe of Hlinethaya Township Hospital and health staff members participated in the free medical treatments.

Myanma Alin

Health staff of mobile clinic team giving medical treatments to local people at Monastic Education School in Hlinethaya Township.



Arctic sea ice thaw may be accelerated by oil, shipping

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Gold hits 6-1/2-month top

An employee holds a gold piece, each weighing 100 grams, at the state-owned mining company PT Antam Tbk metal refinery in Jakarta on 13 July, 2012.



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California governor signs work injury insurance bill

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Arsenal recover to ruin Montpellier's debut

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Mendis spins Sri Lanka to crushing opening win

HAMBANTOTA (Sri Lanka), 19 Sept—Ajantha Mendis produced extraordinary bowling figures of six for eight to lead Sri Lanka to a crushing 82-run win over Zimbabwe in the opening Twenty20 World Cup match on Tuesday.

Mendis, returning to the side following injury, took two wickets in his first over went on to surpass his own record of figures six for 16 against Australia in 2011.

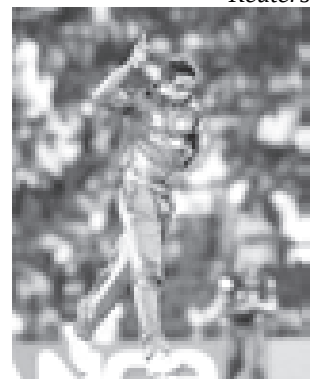
Mendis's name sake Jeevan Mendis took three for 24 as both spinners bamboozled the Zimbabweans who were skittled for just 100 in the Group C match.

Sri Lanka, put into bat, were powered to their total of 182 for four by a 94-run fourth-wicket stand off 51 balls between Kumar Sangakkara and Jeevan Mendis.

Sangakkara top-scored

with 44 off 26 balls with two fours and a six before being run out and Mendis finished on 43 not out including four fours and a six.

Reuters



Sri Lanka's Ajantha Mendis celebrates taking the wicket of Zimbabwe's Elton Chigumbura during their Twenty20 World Cup cricket match in Hambantota 18 September, 2012.

REUTERS

NATIONAL

Foreign companies donate cash for flood victims

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—A ceremony to donate cash to flood victims by Foreign companies engaged in oil and gas exploration in Myanmar took place at the Ministry of Energy this morning with an address by Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay.

Director-General of Relief and Resettlement Department U Soe Aung accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers. The donations include US\$ 10,000 by Daewoo E & P Co, US\$ 15,000 by Total E & P Myanmar Co, US\$ 10,000 by SEAGP Co, US\$ 10,000 by SEAOP Co, US\$ 10,000 by Patronas Carlignall Co, K 5 million by Goldpetrol.

Next, Ayeyawady Region Planning and Economic Minister U Hla Khine accepted the donations for flood

victims in Ayeyawady Region and presented certificates of honour to the donors. The donations include FEC 10,000 by PTTEP International Ltd (Yangon Branch) and US\$ 4,000 by Centre for Management Technology (CMT) and Machine and Solution.

Today's donations are US\$ 59,000, FEC 10,000 and K 5 million. The contributions of foreign companies doing business in Myanmar amounted to over US\$ 41 million so far. Other materials donated by the foreign companies include 107 schools, 72 building, ambulance and medical equipment. The companies were also engaged in renovation of health care facilities, water availability, power supply, environmental conservation and transport.—MNA

Myanmar Ambassador presents credentials to Portuguese President

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—U Tint Swai, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Portuguese Republic, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic, on 17 September 2012 in Lisbon.—MNA

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights holds talks with head of EU delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights U Htay Oo held talks with Ms Vronique Lorenzo, head of EU delegation in Brussels and party at Hall-1 of Hluttaw Complex, here, at twelve noon.

They exchanged views on relations between each Hluttaw, legislative affairs, Human Rights activities, national solidarity and peace and tranquility.—MNA



Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights U Htay Oo receives Ms Vronique Lorenzo, head of EU delegation in Brussels and party.—MNA

Local medical battalion gives health care services

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—Members of local medical battalion of Sittway Township are giving health care services at the relief camps in Sittway.

On 17 September morning, they provided medical checkups to the local

people, distributed pamphlets about health knowledge, fumigated relief camps against dengue hemorrhagic fever and chlorinated the water.

Those staff gave health care services at relief camp of

Sitketawmin Monastery in Ywagyitaung Ward, Sittway Township on 16 September. So far, they have given medical treatment to 8480 patients from 69 relief camps for 162 times and referred 42 patients to the hospital.

MNA

Workshop on development of Myanmar hotels and tourism industry held

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—The National Level Workshop on development of Myanmar hotels and tourism industry was held at the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism yesterday morning with an address by Union Minister for Hotels and

Tourism U Htay Aung.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union minister said that the workshop was held with the aim of drawing the National Development Project (draft) after adopting policy and work programmes to be included in the National

Development Project for development of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism.

The Union minister continued to say that development of tourism sector calls for cooperation among private, public and people, and stressed the need

for the participants to try to meet the above-objectives.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

Next, those present on the occasion and guests discussed programmes to be implemented, future tasks, ecotourism and extension of community based tourism.

MNA

MoU signed on Myanmar-Thai Alternative Development and Socio-economic Cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—Myanmar delegation led by Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Police Major-General Kyaw Kyaw Tun attended a ceremony to sign

Secretary of CCDAC Police Major-General Kyaw Kyaw Tun, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and ONCB Secretary General Police General Abdul Saengsingkaew, on behalf of

and General Secretary of MFLF Mr. Disnadda Diskul, on behalf of the Thai government, signed the MoU to implement matters on it.

The Myanmar delegation observed the Opium Elimination Museum



a MoU on Myanmar-Thai Alternative Development and Socio-economic Cooperation was held in Dwi Tone region in Chin Yine District, Thailand on 17 morning.

On the occasion,

the Thai Government, signed the MoU.

On behalf of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Deputy Director-General U Zaw Oo of the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department,

of Thailand.

It is learnt that the alternative development tasks on the MoU would be soon implemented in Tachilek and Monghsat Townships in Shan State.

MNA

Top-up cards snatcher arrested

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—A woman snatched 30 top-up cards worth K 10,000 each from 09 Mobile Phone Shop on the eastern wing of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market on 14 September.

SIP Myint Zaw of No 4 Police Station and surveillance Nan Hlaing conducted enquiries. According to the investigation, the woman sold out cards per K 8000

each at Ywadow Market. Then, the squad arrested the woman at her house on Sabei Street in Tabinshwehti Ward of Nay Pyi Taw.

The authorities seized one gold chain weighing two Pé and four yway bought with the proceeds of top-up cards of Ma Su Myat Mon, 20. Nay Pyi Taw No 4 Police Station opened a file of lawsuit.

Kyemon

District News

WAW, 19 Sept—With the aim of ensuring sustainable production of fish resources, prevention against fish depletion and enabling the local people to enjoy fish sufficiency in Bago Region, fingerlings were released into Moeyungyi Lake of its forest reserve area on 14 September.

Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Naing, Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Soe Yazar Lin, Head of

Fingerlings released into Moeyungyi Lake

Township Fisheries Department U Tun Hla Aung and staff, members of Township Women's Affairs

Organization, Chairman of Township Fisheries Federation U Thein Shwe and party, ward

administrators and fishing entrepreneurs released 600,000 fingerlings into the lake.—Myanma Alin



WORLD

UN

UN General Assembly begins 67th session



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addresses the opening ceremony of the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly at the UN Headquarters in New York, the United States, on 18 Sept, 2012. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) started on Tuesday its 67th session here in New York.—XINHUA

UNITED NATIONS, 19 Sept—The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) started on Tuesday its 67th session at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Vuk Jeremic, the former Serbian foreign minister who was elected president of the 67th UNGA session on 8 June, said in an opening address that the General Assembly is "the only forum where all (UN)

member states come together as sovereign equals to advance the aims of the UN Charter."

Pledging to faithfully serve the cause of the United Nations, Jeremic said: "I look forward to engaging with all delegations, in furtherance of shared goals and objectives."

"Having consulted widely on the matter, I have chosen bringing about

adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations by peaceful means as the overarching theme for our work over the next 12 months," he added.

According to him, among key issues on its agenda, the General Assembly will address the Millennium Development Goals, climate change and sustainable development, food security, the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of conflicts, disarmament, and United Nations reform, including reform of the Security Council.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that the General Assembly faces a long and urgent agenda. Ban noted that the world is in a period of unease and that, at a time of rising unemployment, rising inequality, rising

temperatures, and rising intolerance, "the United Nations must rise to the moment." Renewing his congratulation to Jeremic on taking up the new post, Ban offered his support to the GA president.

"Mr President, you can count on me, my full support," said the UN chief. He also hoped that the two of them will be working together during this session to deepen the efforts to strengthen and modernize the United Nations itself.

Following opening week, on 24 Sept, the General Assembly will convene a high-level meeting on the rule of law at the national and international levels, during which UN member states, non-governmental organizations and civil society will work towards strengthening the rule of law.

The annual general debate, during which the General Assembly hears statements by heads of state and government, as well as ministers, will begin on 2 Sept and conclude on 1 Oct.

Xinhua



Police and security officials gather near the wreckage of a bus which was hit by a bomb attack on the outskirts of Quetta on 18 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Blasts in two Pakistani cities kill ten people

KARACHI, 19 Sept—Blasts in two Pakistani cities killed at least 10 people on Tuesday, police said, but the violence did not appear to be connected to protests over a film insulting Islam.

In the commercial capital of Karachi, seven people died and 20 were injured when bombs in a car and a motor bike exploded in a market, said senior policeman Naeem Broka. The market was not near the US consulate or frequented by foreigners.

In the western city of Quetta, three people were

killed and nine injured when a bomb hit a bus carrying pilgrims from Iran, police said.

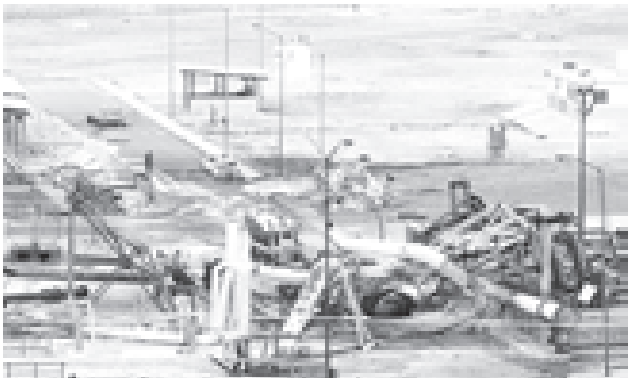
Sectarian violence is common in Quetta.

Elsewhere in Pakistan, about 2,000 people protested against a film mocking the Prophet Mohammad in the eastern city of Lahore and the border town of Chaman.

Pakistan is home to 180 million people, most of whom are Muslim. The government is fighting against a Taliban insurgency and sectarian and criminal violence is common.

Reuters

Fire at Mexico Pemex gas facility kills 26



Burnt cars and gas storage tanks are seen at a gas facility of Pemex in Reynosa, on 18 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

REYNOSA, 19 Sept—At least 26 people were killed and as many injured when a Pemex gas facility burst into flames in northern Mexico on Tuesday, one of the worst accidents to hit the state oil monopoly in recent years.

Television footage showed flames leaping high into the sky during the blaze at a gas compression station near

the city of Reynosa, a key entry point for natural gas to Mexico from the United States. Pemex said gas imports from the United States were not affected, as the station stores gas from Mexico's Burgos field, and is not an import terminal.

It was the third blaze in about five weeks at Pemex installations in Tamaulipas, a border state that has struggled

to contain the menace of warring drug gangs. Parts of the plant were reduced to a mangled wreckage of twisted, charred tubing, the earth beneath scorched black. Soldiers stood guard with assault rifles at the entrance.

Victor Barrera, a local subcontractor at the plant, said he was only about 30 metres (100 feet) away when a pipeline exploded. "A friend just told me around 40 people who were working on the tank were burned when there was a sudden explosion. I didn't even have time to turn around, what I did was run to save myself," said Barrera.

The cause of the fire was unclear. Pemex said it was still investigating after fire fighters brought it under control on Tuesday afternoon.

Reuters

NATO halts work with Afghan allies to stem insider attacks

KABUL, 19 Sept—NATO ordered a cutback on Tuesday on operations with Afghan forces in response to a surge of so-called insider attacks on foreign servicemen, but said the restriction was temporary and would not derail a 2014 handover of security to Afghan forces.

The order indefinitely suspending most mentoring operations was issued by the second most senior US commander in Afghanistan, Lieutenant-General James Terry, and applies to all front-line missions involving units

smaller than an 800-strong battalion. But a senior NATO spokesman, US Colonel Tom Collins, said the order was only a "temporary and prudent response" to current threats of insider attacks.

"It will apply only until the threat level returns to a tolerable level," Collins said,

will now have to cope with reduced support from the 100,000-strong NATO-led force backing the Afghan government against Taliban insurgents.

At least 51 members of the NATO force have been killed in insider attacks this year, in which Afghan police



NATO soldiers arrive at the site of a suicide bomb attack in Kabul on 18 September, 2012.—REUTERS

adding that separate training missions would be unaffected and the scaling back would apply only to smaller front-line and field troops.

Enabling missions, like NATO helicopter support for Afghan troops and medical evacuations by air, would also be unaffected, Collins told Reuters.

But even a limited cutback is a major turnaround for NATO's core mission of a strong training role for the 350,000 members of the Afghan security forces who

or soldiers have turned their weapons on their Western mentors. That represents a spike of more than 40 percent on similar incidents for the whole of last year.

The order, which appeared to take several coalition members including Britain and Australia by surprise, was issued after weekend attacks by Afghan police in which six foreign soldiers were killed in the south, where the Taliban draw most support.

Reuters

US West should expect bigger wildfires more often

SALMON, 19 Sept—A warming trend has contributed to a sharp rise in the number and size of wildfires on forest lands in the US West, where big burns are likely to become the norm, according to a report released on Tuesday by a climate research group.

The average annual number of fires that cover more than 1,000 acres has nearly quadrupled in Arizona and Idaho and doubled in California, Colorado and six other Western states since 1970, the study by Climate Central showed.

The report, which analyzed 42 years of records about fires on US Forest Service lands in 11 Western states, linked rising spring

and summer temperatures in the region to a fire season that begins earlier, ends later and sparks larger, more frequent blazes.

Those include so-called megafires, or blazes that rage upward of 10,000 acres. Those fires erupted at a rate seven times greater each year

in the past decade in the western United States than in an average year in the 1970s, according to the report.

The 2012 fire season in the West has claimed several lives, torched hundreds of homes and forced the evacuation of thousands of residents. Record blazes have also been recorded in New Mexico and Oregon.

Conditions contributing to the increase often include fire suppression practices that fostered forests packed with fuel, early melting of mountain snows and fire seasons in the West that now last 10 weeks longer than in the 1970s, the report said.

Reuters



A firefighter sprays water during a burn operation in Boise National Forest near the community of Featherville, Idaho, in this US Forest Service handout image dated on 22 August, 2012.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Arctic sea ice thaw may be accelerated by oil, shipping

OSLO, 19 Sept—Local pollution in the Arctic from shipping and oil and gas industries, which have expanded in the region due to a thawing of sea ice caused by global warming, could further accelerate that thaw, experts say.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said there was an urgent need to calculate risks of local pollutants such as soot, or "black carbon", in the Arctic. Soot darkens ice, making it soak up more of the sun's heat and quickening a melt.

Companies such as Shell, which this week gave up a push to find oil this year in the Chukchi Sea as the winter closed in, Exxon or Statoil say they are using the cleanest available technologies.

But the risks of even small amounts of pollution on the Arctic Ocean, emitted near ice with little dispersal by winds, have not been fully assessed.

"A lot of the concerns

need urgent evaluation," said Nick Nuttall, spokesman of Naibori-based UNEP, referring to issues such as

Science

The extent of sea ice on the Arctic Ocean has shrunk this summer to the smallest since satellite records began



flaring of gas or fuels used by vessels in the Arctic.

"There is a grim irony here that as the ice melts...humanity is going for more of the natural resources fuelling this meltdown," he said. Large amounts of soot in the Arctic come from more distant sources such as forest fires or industry.

in the 1970s, eclipsing a 2007 low. The melt is part of a long-term retreat blamed by a UN panel on man-made global warming, caused by use of fossil fuels.

"We're working to get a better documentation of the risks of black carbon in the Arctic," said Lars-Otto Reiersen, head of the Arctic

The sun sets over Arctic ice near the 2011 Applied Physics Laboratory Ice Station north of Prudhoe Bay, Alaska in this 18 March, 2011 picture.—REUTERS

Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), part of the Arctic Council.

An AMAP report last year said that "regulation of black carbon production from all sources, especially those resulting locally from activities in the Arctic, is required at all scales."

Reuters

Tech

China's Alibaba buys back half of Yahoo's stake

NEW YORK, 19 Sept—China's Alibaba Group said it bought back half the stake Yahoo Inc owned in the company for about \$7.6 billion, moving closer to an initial public offering.

Alibaba said it paid Yahoo about \$6.3 billion in cash and \$800 million in preferred shares in Alibaba Group. It also made a one-time cash payment of \$550 million in connection with an amendment to the two companies' intellectual property license agreement.

Separately, Yahoo said it will return to shareholders \$3 billion of the \$4.3 billion of after-tax proceeds from the sale. This is in addition to the \$646 million downpayment that it has already returned to its shareholders through

Yahoo's remaining stake at the time of the Chinese company's planned initial public offering.

Alibaba, which reached an agreement with Yahoo in May to buy back its shares, took its business-to-business e-commerce platform Alibaba.com private for \$3 billion in June.

"The completion of this transaction begins a new chapter in our relationship with Yahoo," Alibaba CEO Jack Ma said.

Yahoo originally acquired its stake in Alibaba Group in 2005 in exchange for \$1 billion and the sale of its Yahoo China business to Alibaba Group.

Alibaba received \$1 billion in funding from eight international banks



An employee walks past a wall painted with the logo of Alibaba (China) Technology Co Ltd at its headquarters office on the outskirts of Hangzhou, Zhejiang province on 21 May, 2012.—REUTERS

buybacks.

Yahoo continues to own about 23 percent of Alibaba's common stock, valued at \$8.1 billion, the US internet company said. Together with preferred stock, its stake is valued at about \$8.9 billion, Yahoo said.

Yahoo owned about 40 percent of Alibaba Group before Tuesday's transaction. Alibaba said it has the right to buy back half of

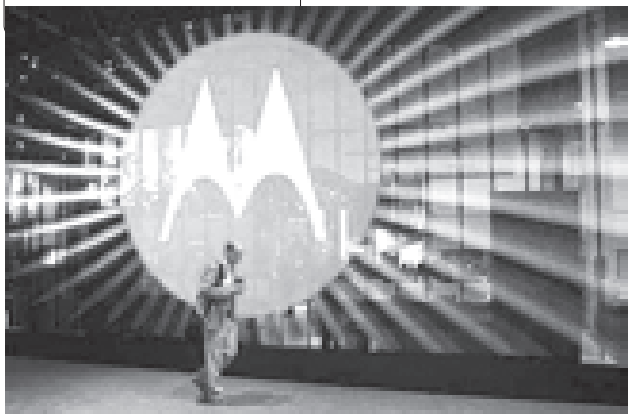
including Barclays Bank, Citi, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and Morgan Stanley and another \$1 billion from China Development Bank.

It raised the remaining funds through an issue of convertible preferred shares and ordinary shares to investors such as CIC International Co Ltd, Boyu Capital, Temasek Holdings Pvt Ltd and DST Global.

Reuters

Tech

A man walks by a video display at the Motorola booth on the second day of the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas on 7 Jan, 2011.—REUTERS



LONDON, 19 Sept—Google's Motorola Mobility revealed a new smart phone for Europe and Latin America on Tuesday, rolling out the first handset of a multi-device

Motorola launches Intel-powered smart phone

agreement with top chipmaker Intel.

With a 4.3 inch display and Google's Android platform, the Razr i is very similar to the Razr M unveiled earlier in September for US consumers but its brain is an

made by Qualcomm and Samsung Electronics using technology licensed by Britain's ARM Holdings are widely favoured.

Intel dominates the PC industry but has been slow to adapt its powerful processors to work well in battery-sensitive mobile gadgets. But the Santa Clara, California company is rushing to catch up.

The Razr M includes Qualcomm technology compatible with high-speed Long Term Evolution (LTE) networks in the United States, while the Razr i is limited to slower 3G phone networks relied on more in Europe, Latin America and other parts of the world. The new phone which will launch in October uses a new version of Intel's Medfield smart phone processor running at 2 Gigahertz, faster than the 1.6

GHz versions used in phones launched earlier this year by Orange in Britain, MegaFon in Russia and Lava International in India.

Those phone launches were Intel's first significant foray into the mobile market, and the Medfield chips used in them have performed better than many sceptics expected.

Offering the similar Razr i and Razr M phones, powered by Intel and Qualcomm chips respectively, will create a new opportunity for investors to compare the performance of the two companies' best chips.

The combined market for PCs, smart phones and tablets is expected to almost double over the next four years, but Intel's share of the processors used in them will dip from 35 percent to 29 percent, according to market research firm IHS iSuppli.—Reuters

Tech lobbying powerhouse set to open doors in Washington

Tech

WASHINGTON, 19 Sept—Google, Amazon.com, eBay, Facebook and other Internet companies have formed a lobbying group called The Internet Association to tackle regulatory and political issues in Washington, DC, and it is due to kick off on Wednesday.

It will lobby on issues such as allocation of visas for engineers and matters of privacy and piracy, said the group's president Michael Beckerman, a former advisor to Fred Upton, the chairman of the US House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce

Committee.

Other members include Expedia, LinkedIn, Monster Worldwide, Yahoo! and Zynga.

Formation of the group marks a stronger alliance of Internet companies as they try to influence regulations pertaining to revenue repatriation, cyber security, and sales tax.

"It is the Internet's decentralized and open model that has unleashed unprecedented entrepreneurialism," said Beckerman. "Policymakers must understand that the preservation of that freedom is essential to the vitality of the Internet itself and the



A woman walks past the Google Chicago headquarters logo in Chicago, on 20 March, 2012.—REUTERS

resulting economic prosperity."

Google and Facebook are among the companies that have been steadily ramping up spending on lobbying the federal

government. Older tech companies, like Microsoft, have long been active in Washington.

Google, which is being investigated by antitrust regulators in the United States and Europe, has lobbied officials at the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Commerce, according to disclosure forms.

Facebook has lobbied regarding online privacy and immigration reform while also talking to lawmakers and their staffs about matters concerning initial public offerings.

In May, Facebook became the first US company to go public with a market valuation above \$100 billion.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Wal-Mart, Humana reward healthy food purchases **Health**

MIAMI, 19 Sept—Wal-Mart Stores Inc, the world's largest retailer, is joining with healthcare insurer Humana Inc to trim the cost of healthy foods for some customers.

More than 1 million members of Humana's healthy rewards programme will get a 5 percent credit on about 1,300 healthy food items at US Walmart stores starting on 15 October, the companies said. The credit can be used against future Walmart purchases.

"One of the biggest barriers to healthy nutrition is cost," said Dr John Agwunobi, president of health and wellness at Walmart.

Walmart, the largest US

food retailer, is striving to improve the nutritional value of the food it sells. Food accounts for more than half of Walmart's annual sales, and its clout in the US market means that changes at its stores can influence other supermarket chains such as Kroger Co and Safeway Inc.

Walmart's products eligible for the credit include fresh fruits, vegetables, lean cuts of meat, skim milk, brown rice and packaged goods, the company said. The programme works with a Humana Vitality card provided to members of Humana's rewards unit who receive points for meeting health goals.



Customers are seen at a Wal-Mart market in Miami, Florida on 18 May, 2010. —REUTERS

In January 2011, Wal-Mart unveiled plans for its healthy food programme with first lady Michelle Obama, which includes using a "Great For You" icon on certain items.

The emphasis on nutrition comes as the United

States is facing soaring obesity rates. A study released on Tuesday predicted that half of US adults will be obese by 2030 unless they change their ways. Obesity contributes to numerous diseases, such as diabetes and certain cancers. —Reuters

American Airlines issues layoff notices, cuts flight schedule **Business**

NEW YORK, 19 Sept—American Airlines said on Tuesday it has notified more than 11,000 workers they could lose their jobs as part of its bankruptcy reorganization, and said it was cutting flights by one to two percent for the rest of September and October. The US carrier expects fewer than 40 percent of those it sent notices to, or 4,400 people, will actually be laid off in November and December, spokesman Bruce Hicks said.

The layoff notices were required under the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, which requires employees to be informed 60 days before major layoffs or plant closures. "The notices will look worse than the actual layoffs," said Jamie Horwitz, a spokesman for the Transport Workers Union, which represents workers that received WARN Act notices. Horwitz said about 800 employees had



An American Airlines passenger jet glides in under the moon as it lands at LaGuardia airport in New York on 28 Aug, 2012. —REUTERS

agreed to leave American voluntarily, a move that will further reduce the number of expected layoffs.

According to a letter sent by American to the Transport Workers Union, notices of potential layoff were sent to more than 3,000 workers in Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas, where American is based; about 3,000 people in Tulsa, Oklahoma; just over 1,200 in Miami; nearly 1,000 in New York; about 900 in Chicago and lesser numbers in other US cities.

In February, American outlined plans to cut as many as 14,000 jobs as it looks to streamline in bankruptcy.

American Airlines, the third-largest US air carrier, filed for Chapter 11 protection in November, citing a need to decrease labor costs. The company has signed non-disclosure agreements with carriers including US Airways Group as it evaluates a potential merger. US Airways won the backing of unions that represent American ramp workers, pilots and flight attendants earlier this year by promising to preserve thousands of jobs should a merger with American occur. —Reuters

Suzlon seeks to extend October bond maturity **Business**

MUMBAI, 19 Sept—Suzlon Energy (SUZL NS), the world's fifth-largest wind turbine maker, plans to extend the maturity of convertible bonds due 11

October by four months to give it time to raise funds to repay bondholders.

The company, which had issued \$200 million of zero-coupon convertible

bonds and another \$20.8 million of bonds with a 7.5 percent coupon, will meet bondholders on 10 October to seek approval to extend the maturity to 11 February, 2013. Suzlon is working to arrange funds from various sources including selling "non-critical" assets, raising fresh debt and selling shares to redeem the bonds, it said on Tuesday.

Suzlon raised \$200 million through dollar convertible bonds in 2007, and the amount outstanding on this tranche is \$121.4 million with a conversion price of 97.26 rupees per share, according to Thomson Reuters data.

The second tranche of

convertible bonds worth \$20.8 million and issued in 2009 has a conversion price of 76.68 rupees.

Shares in Suzlon, which has a market value of \$546 million, ended at 17.15 rupees on Tuesday.

Suzlon said the possible extension would be subject to regulatory approvals.

In July, the firm redeemed its \$360 million worth of foreign currency convertible bonds.

Suzlon has been under pressure for the last few years from a slowdown in global turbine sales and its debt pile. It posted a net loss in the April-June quarter compared with a profit in the year ago period. —Reuters



Power-generating windmill turbines are pictured in Suzlon wind farm at Sanodar village, 160 km (99 miles) west of the western Indian city of Ahmedabad, on 8 Sept, 2009.

REUTERS

Gold hits 6-1/2-month top

SINGAPORE, 19 Sept—Gold shook off early losses to hit its highest level in 6-1/2 months on Wednesday after Japan joined the United States and Europe in mounting more stimulus measures to boost its economy, raising gold's appeal as a hedge against

inflation.

The Bank of Japan increased its asset buying and loan programme, currently its key monetary easing tool, by 10 trillion yen to 80 trillion yen with the increment aimed at purchases of government bonds and treasury discount bills.



An employee holds a gold piece, each weighing 100 grams, at the state-owned mining company PT Antam Tbk metal refinery in Jakarta on 13 July, 2012.

REUTERS

Business

Efforts by Japan, and before that the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank, to spur economic activity via bond purchases should weaken currencies and lift inflation, both supportive of gold, said Jeremy Friesen, commodity strategist at Societe Generale.

"I think other central banks will announce more accommodative policies and that should continue to support gold," said Friesen.

Spot gold rose as high as \$1,779.10 an ounce, its loftiest since 29 February. By 0656 GMT, gold was up 0.4 percent at \$1,777.89.

Gold has risen around 17 percent since hitting this year's low of \$1,527 in May, buoyed by measures by central banks to help the global economy.

US gold for December delivery rose half a percent to \$1,780.40.

Reuters

Bank of Japan easing lifts European shares



Traders work at their desks at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 1 Feb, 2012. —REUTERS

LONDON, 19 Sept—Shares rose on Wednesday and the yen fell to a one-month low after the Bank of Japan eased monetary policy, the latest central bank to offer stimulus to help the global economy find a firmer footing. The BOJ said it would increase its asset buying and loan programme, currently its key monetary easing tool, by 10 trillion yen to 80 trillion yen.

The announcement came a month earlier than expected and followed a

promise from the US Federal Reserve to pump \$40 billion a month into the economy until the jobs market improved and new plans from the European Central Bank to fight the region's debt crisis. The BOJ move lifted Japanese stocks to a four-month high and the feel-good factor carried into Europe where London, Paris and Frankfurt all opened higher after seeing falls earlier in the week. The MSCI index of global shares was up 0.25

Business

percent at 0715 GMT.

"It is similar to the Fed effect. Global easing of policy is positive for the market especially for the equity market, but this is also interesting because it was sort of unexpected," said Daiwa Securities economist Tobias Blattner. The yen fell to a one-month low against the dollar and the euro edged up 0.13 percent to \$1.3062 on improved risk sentiment although it was still trading nearly a full cent below a four-month high set on Monday.

With riskier assets looking more appealing against the backdrop of central bank stimulus, German bund futures were 6 ticks lower on the day at 139.19, while yields fell slightly on Italian and Spanish bonds. Oil prices were firmer with Brent November crude up 55 cents to \$112.58 a barrel, snapping two straight days of losses. —Reuters

WORLD

Moscow forces US to close down its aid mission in Russia **Russia**

WASHINGTON, 19 Sept—Russia has forced the United States to close its aid mission in Moscow, the US government said on Tuesday, in a blow to US efforts to improve ties and a step that may aid the Kremlin's crackdown on pro-democracy groups.

Russia gave the US Agency for International Development (USAID) until 1 October to cease operations after two decades and more than \$2.6 billion spent to combat disease, protect the environment, strengthen civil society and modernize the economy.

In announcing the decision to close down the USAID operation in Russia, the State Department suggested the Russian government — which is earning high levels of oil revenues — felt that it should no longer be the recipient of such foreign aid.

Analysts also suggested a political motive: reducing foreign support for Russian groups that promote

democracy and the rule of law but that are viewed with deep suspicion by the Kremlin.

Vladimir Putin, who served eight years as president until 2008 and then four years as prime minister, took office in May for a third presidential term after winning nearly two thirds of the vote in an election international monitors say was skewed in his favour.

In a sign of his reluctance to brook dissent, Putin has pushed through new laws to raise fines for protesters, stiffen punishments for defamation and put new controls on foreign-funded campaign groups.

"Russian authorities have made clear for the better part of a decade that they see Russia as a great power and a provider of assistance, not a recipient," said Matthew Rojansky of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

"Add to that tension over the pre- and post-election protests, which the



Russia's President Vladimir Putin (C) chairs a meeting on the federal budget at the Bocharov Ruchei state residence in Sochi on 18 September, 2012. —REUTERS

Kremlin alleges were orchestrated by US-funded NGOs (non-governmental organizations), plus the deep disagreement over US democracy-promotion activities in the Middle East, and you can see why Russia may have taken this decision now," he added.

While US President Barack Obama came into office seeking a "reset" in relations with Russia that bore some fruit, including a 2010 arms-control treaty, the two nations disagree on

issues from the violence in Syria and Iran's nuclear programme to US plans to build a missile defence shield and the Arab Spring.

In announcing the decision, the State Department said USAID will continue to promote democracy and civil society despite no longer having an office in Russia. A US government official said that the decision to close down the office would affect 13 US diplomats and 60 local Russian employees.

Reuters

Cholera outbreak causes 271 deaths in Sierra Leone: WHO

GENEVA, 19 Sept—A total of 18,508 cases have been reported in the ongoing cholera outbreak in Sierra Leone as of 16 Sept since the beginning of this year, and of these 271 people died, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday.

The highest numbers of cases are reported from the western area of the west African country where the capital city of Freetown is located, according to the WHO.

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation of Sierra Leone has been stepping up response to the outbreak. Emphasis is being placed on early detection of cases and timely provision of treatment at the district levels in order to reduce deaths, the WHO said.

WHO has deployed case management and laboratory experts through the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network to build capacity among health-care workers and laboratory technicians in case management and laboratory diagnosis.

Xinhua

Iran launches submarine as US navy drills in Gulf **Iran**

DUBAI, 19 Sept—Iran launched a submarine and a destroyer into the Gulf from Bandar Abbas port on Tuesday at the same time as US and allied navies held exercises in the same waters to practice keeping oil shipping lanes open.

Teheran has repeatedly threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz, a route for oil exports from the Gulf, if Iranian nuclear sites are attacked by Israel, which believes Teheran is trying to develop an atomic bomb.

The United States, Britain, France and a number of Middle Eastern states are conducting a naval exercise in the Gulf this week, focusing on how to clear mines that Teheran or guerrilla groups might deploy to disrupt tanker traffic.

Iran's refitted Tareq-901 submarine and Sahand destroyer were launched on the direct orders of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the official IRNA news agency reported.

On the other side of the country, Khamenei visited the northern coastal city of Nowshahr on Tuesday to watch naval cadets practice planting mines, freeing hijacked ships, destroying enemy vessels and jumping from helicopters, his official website said.

"The armed forces must reach capabilities such that no one can attack the strong fence of the country and the dear people of Iran," Khamenei told army commanders, according to the Iranian Students News Agency.—Reuters

Congo rebels set up de facto administration: UN **Congo**

UNITED NATIONS, 19 Sept—Rebels have set up a de facto administration in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, UN peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous said on Tuesday as the Security Council urged a political solution to the crisis rather than applying sanctions.

Ladsous briefed the 15-member Security Council after his recent visit to Congo, or the DRC, and Rwanda, which has been accused by Kinshasa and UN experts of supporting the M23 rebel group. Kigali has repeatedly denied any involvement in the crisis.

A high-level meeting on the DRC is due to be held next week during the UN General Assembly in New York.

"The sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Congo has to be respected," Ladsous told reporters. "Clearly there needs to be some confidence rebuilt, especially between the two

main neighbours DRC and Rwanda."

M23 rebels, who have links to Bosco Ntaganda, a warlord wanted by the International Criminal Court on war crimes charges, have been fighting government soldiers in North Kivu province since April, displacing some 470,000 civilians.

"M23 elements are concentrated in a corner of the eastern Kivu, which is next to the borders of Rwanda and Uganda," Ladsous told reporters. "They are already establishing a sort of de facto administration, controlling population, taking 'taxes' from people who pass through and that ... is hardly acceptable."

"There has been no major offensive in a military sense over the past five or six weeks, but clearly this can change very quickly and in many directions," he said.

Reuters



M23 rebel fighters dance in celebration in the rain at Rumangabo after government troops abandoned the town 23 km (14 miles) north of the eastern Congolese city of Goma, on 28 July, 2012.

REUTERS

Key Colombian drug lord captured in Colombia **Venezuela**

Alleged Colombian drug trafficker Daniel Barrera, known as "Loco Barrera", is seen in this handout photo provided by the national police on 18 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

BOGOTA, 19 Sept—One of Colombia's most wanted drug traffickers was captured in neighbouring Venezuela on Tuesday with the help of Caracas as well as British and US intelligence agencies, Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said.

Colombia is one of the world's top producers of cocaine, and criminal gangs composed of former right-

wing paramilitary groups and old cartels have become a major emerging threat to the nation of 46 million people.

Daniel Barrera, known as "Crazy Barrera," was captured across the border in San Cristobal, Venezuela, in an operation that was directed from Washington by a Colombian police general, Santos said in a televised speech.

"Crazy Barrera has been, perhaps, the most wanted kingpin in recent times. He has dedicated 20 years to doing bad things to Colombia and the world, all types of crime, perverse alliances with paramilitaries, with the FARC (rebel group)," Santos said.

Barrera had a \$5 million bounty on his head from the United States and \$2.7 million from Colombia's government.

Santos thanked US and British intelligence agencies as well as Venezuela's government for their help. Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has been one of the fiercest critics in Latin America of US and Western foreign policy.

Santos did not give any more details on the operation. Venezuela's government summoned reporters for a press conference early on Wednesday to discuss Barrera's capture.—Reuters

East Asia maritime diplomacy needed: US defence secretary

BEIJING, 19 Sept—East Asia maritime issues should be resolved via peaceful diplomatic means, US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta said here on Tuesday.

The United States has concerns about challenges in marine issues in east Asia and call for calm and restraint on all sides, Panetta said during talks with Chinese Defence Minister Liang Guanglie.

Panetta arrived in Beijing on Monday evening, kicking off his first visit to China as Pentagon chief.

The China trip is the second leg of his week-long Asia-Pacific visit, which also takes him to Japan and New Zealand.—Xinhua

WORLD

Pension returns at risk as UK mulls inflation change

UK

LONDON, 19 Sept—British pensioners and investors in index-linked government bonds could face lower incomes if changes go ahead to a key measure of inflation, as proposed by the country's Office for National Statistics on Tuesday. The ONS's Consumer Price Advisory Committee (CPAC)—a body with members from the ONS, Bank of England, finance ministry, media and academia—has been considering changes to the retail price index throughout this year.

On Tuesday it stopped

short of saying exactly how the RPI measure should change, but three of the four proposals it will put forward for public consultation would lead to a rate of RPI that is closer to the consumer price index measure. Aligning the long-standing RPI more closely to the newer CPI could save cash-strapped chancellor George Osborne 3 billion pounds a year in debt interest payments, but risks alienating bondholders.

"There is a trust issue," Jonathan Gibbs, an investment director at fund manager

Standard Life, told *Reuters*.

"Clearly the chancellor wants to reduce his borrowing costs, but I think there is a genuine danger that if the government is seen as moving the goalposts ... the market may charge a higher risk premium on investing in British government bonds."

As well as being used to calculate returns on British index-linked gilts, RPI is also used to calculate annual rises for many private pensions as well as price changes in long-term rental, transport and utility contracts. RPI has typically run 0.5-1.0 percent higher than CPI, which the Bank of England uses for its inflation target, and much of this difference reflects different calculation methods rather than any difference in the goods and services being sampled. Gibbs said that two of the proposals—no change to RPI and a complete alignment to CPI—were unlikely to happen, but it was harder to see which of two other options would take place.—*Reuters*



Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne speaks at the Global Investment Conference 2012 in London on 26 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Five killed, four injured in Iraq attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 19 Sept—Five people were killed and four others injured on Tuesday in separate gunfire and bomb attacks in northern and eastern Iraq, the police said. In northern Iraq, four people were killed and two other wounded when gunmen using silenced weapons opened fire on their car in the city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, a local police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Also in Kirkuk, gunmen wounded a teacher at Kirkuk University, while he was driving his car in the district of al-Qadissiyah in southern the city, the source said.

In Iraq's eastern province of Diyala, a member of a government-backed Awakening Council group was shot dead when gunmen attacked him near the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a provincial police source anonymously told *Xinhua*.

The Awakening Council group, or Sahwa in Arabic, consists of armed groups, including some powerful anti-US Sunni insurgent groups which fought al-Qaeda militants in the Sunni Arab areas after the US-led invasion of Iraq.

Xinhua

British fugitive shoots dead two unarmed policewomen

UK

LONDON, 19 Sept—One of Britain's most wanted fugitives killed two unarmed policewomen on Tuesday in a gun and grenade ambush, police said, killings which are likely to reignite a long-running debate over whether British officers should carry guns.

Police constables Fiona Bone, 32, and Nicola Hughes, 23, were gunned down in a hail of bullets after responding to a hoax call about a burglary in the northern English city of Manchester. Despite shock over the murders, described by Prime Minister David Cameron as "despicable", senior police officers said they were determined that the British force would remain one of few in the world which is

not routinely armed.

Police said the two constables, one of whom was about to be married, had been deliberately lured into a trap by Dale Cregan, 29, a suspect in another double killing in the city. Cregan handed himself into a local police station after the shooting.

Either Cregan or an associate made the false burglary report to lure the officers to the scene, said Greater Manchester Police Chief Constable Peter Fahy.

"Then he has come out and shot and killed them both," Fahy told reporters, adding Cregan also threw a grenade at them. "Certainly, it would appear to be that he has deliberately done this in

an act of absolutely cold-blooded murder. It's almost impossible to fathom such an evil act." Fahy did not offer any possible motive for the ambush.

Witnesses reported hearing more than a dozen shots and an explosion. One of the officers died at the scene and the other in hospital, police said.—*Reuters*



Police and ambulance vehicles are seen at the scene where two female police officers were killed in Hattersley near Manchester, northern England on 18 September, 2012.—REUTERS

Canada, UAE sign nuclear cooperation agreement

Canada

agreement

OTTAWA, 19 Sept—Canada and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed an agreement here on Tuesday to start civilian nuclear cooperation. The agreement will allow companies in Canada's nuclear industry to deal with designated civilian nuclear installations in the UAE under safeguards by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In accordance with Canada's non-proliferation policy, nuclear items can only be exported to countries that meet several requirements, which include assurances that such items will be used solely for "peaceful, non-explosive end-uses" and that they will be subject to "adequate physical protection measures to ensure that they are not stolen or otherwise misused."

Canada must also have control over both the storage and subsequent use of any separated plutonium, as well as the high enrichment of Canadian uranium and the subsequent storage and use of the highly enriched uranium. Canadian Foreign Affairs Ministry said the UAE has met the conditions by implementing a comprehensive nuclear safety regime and regulatory framework designed to ensure that all nuclear-related installations are operated safely. UAE Foreign Affairs Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan hailed the agreement as a "model" for Iran, which is locked in a standoff with the West over its nuclear programme.

"It's unfortunate that other countries—and here obviously I'm talking about Iran—do not look at the bigger picture when it comes to civilian nuclear programmes," he said.—*Xinhua*

One soldier killed, 48 injured in PKK attack in eastern Turkey

Turkey

ANKARA, 19 Sept—One soldier of the Turkish security forces was killed and 48 others were injured when suspected members of the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) attacked a military convoy in eastern Turkey on Tuesday, local newspaper *Today's Zaman* reported on its website. Fire broke out after a group of PKK members attacked the military convoy with rocket launchers on the Bingol-Mus highway near the village of Kardesler in Bingol province, according to the report.

The injured soldiers, some of whom in serious conditions, were immediately taken to nearby hospitals for medical treatment. The Turkish security forces killed 32 PKK rebels in military operations in Zorgecit region of Semdinli town in the southeastern province of Hakkari on 15, 16 and 17 Sept, said a statement released by Hakkari Governor's Office on Monday.

Meanwhile, eight police officers were killed and nine others wounded in a mine blast attack staged by the PKK on Bingol-Erzurum highway

near Hacilar village of Karliova town of Bingol on Sunday, local NTV news channel reported.

A total of 330 PKK militants were killed in 974 military operations from February to August, said a statement issued by the General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces. The PKK, listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the United States and the European Union, took up arms in 1984 in an attempt to create an ethnic homeland in southeastern Turkey.

Xinhua

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 20 September, 2012

Form a good habit

A habit is a practice that a person has formed in life. It is some action that has become automatic. The habits are formed by repetition. When we do certain things for a length of time, doing that things soon become a habit. Forming a good habit is somewhat time-consuming and it is an uphill battle.

Once a good habit or a bad habit has been formed it is very difficult to break it, and so we should try to form only good habits. A person's character is made up of habits. The one with good habits or good characters will find it easier to succeed in life than the one with bad habits or bad characters. This rule is widely acknowledged in the teachings of nearly all philosophers and religions.

Looked at from the point of the country going through a transition, we have to wrangle over the issue of bad habits which have been deeply entrenched in the society. In this era of consumerism, most people greedily hunt for material happiness showing a total disregard for their characters. They came through their experience none the worse for wear, and are still enjoying a better life.

As the government employees are a source of great strength for the country going forward, they are to try their utmost to get themselves rid of bad habits, for the new administration does not tolerate corruption. The new administration is well known for its advocacy of hard work, integrity and morality.

At a time when reform process has become as a surprise to many in the international community who are waiting any subsequent changes to make a better assessment, all the citizens including government employees should do away with bad habits that harm the image of the country and the people.

Prizes awarded in performing arts competitions in Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—The prize presentation of the 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Magway Region was held at the city hall in Magway on 16 September.

U Phone Maw Shwe, Region Chief Minister' and wife Daw San San Myint, region ministers, senior military officers of the local station and officials awarded winners in the respective events. The prize winners entertained the guests with songs.—MNA

We trade in air in different ways!



Cartoon Maung Maung Lay

NATIONAL

Plans under way for buying housing for low-income families

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept— "In cooperation with the ministries, state and region government bodies and entrepreneurs, plans are being arranged for buying housing for low-income families, one of the national goals. The sustainable implementation of housing complex with high standard of living and housing financial management are as important as the plans that mentioned earlier. In accordance with national policies, Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development is formed as National Housing Corporation", said Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, in his speech, at workshop on Myanmar Housing Development and Housing Finance Management of the Ministry of Construction held at Office-11, here on 17

September morning.

He added that arrangements are being made to improve both socio-economic status of people and income for each and every families, approaching public development works.

The Union Minister kept on saying that lands utilization management is crucial for urbanization projects and investment project in order to create job opportunities. Supervising the quality control should be done for preventing natural disaster and durability in housing industry.

13 scholars read out the papers. The first session of the workshop concluded yesterday evening. As the second session of one continued holding today, 9 scholars read out the papers on Sustainable Financing for adequate and affordable



Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin makes speech at workshop on Myanmar Housing Development and Housing Finance Management.—MNA

Housing, Housing Finance Mechanism, The Role of Financial Institution in Housing Finance, Housing Finance Mechanism from Thailand and Comparison of Neighbouring Countries

Experienced in Housing Finance Mechanism. They reviewed the papers in respective sessions. The Union Minister made concluding remarks.

MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister views regional development task in Thayawady District

YANGON, 19 Sept—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win attended the launching of electrification for Kyaephyu-Shanywa village in Okpo Township of Thayawady District on 16 September morning.

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept— A team from the Forest Department of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry intercepted a truck loaded with 642 of illegally-cut timbers weighing 2.8210 tons near Thabyaygon Roundabout in Zabuthiri Township on 8 September.

Ye Min Soe of Chaungpya Village, Zeyathiri Township, who was driving the truck with Number

Bago Region Electric and Industry Minister U Baby Ohn and officials cut the ribbon to open the ceremony and chief minister unveiled the signboard.

The region chief

minister met locals at Kyaephyu-Shanywa basic education primary school and heard the reports presented by village officials. The chief minister proceeded to Kyatchoung Village Basic Education High

School (branch) in Okpo Township where he viewed learning of students and met teachers and locals.

Officials explained Okpo-Tetswel (Uyitsutaw-tetswel) road section, construction of Myitmakha river-crossing bridge and digging of Myole creek to the chief minister.

MNA

Illegally-cut timber seized in townships in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

Plate Za/9817 and U Ye Tun, owner of the timbers have been charged under Section 41 (a) of the Forest Law.

Similarly, a combined team comprising 14 officials from the Forest Department and local police men confiscated illegal 11 logs weighing 2.0960 tons near the Village of Nyaunglu in Pobbathiri Township on 9 September.

A combined team comprising five officials of the Pyinmana Township Forest Department and three policemen intercepted the two trucks loaded with illegally-cut timbers on 11 September.

The first truck was loaded with 111 illegally-cut timbers weighing 0.5518 tons and 96 cut-timbers weighing 1.0462 tons. The second truck was loaded with 134 illegally-cut timbers weighing 0.7586 tons and

109 Thadi wood weighing 1.4356 tons. Actions were being taken against U Maung Tun of Tatpoe Village in Pyinmana Township and Maung Zaw of Pyinmana Township who were driving the trucks and against Ma Mi Mi Thet and Daw Htay of Pyudwin Village in Pyinmana Township by Shwedwington Police Station.

Similarly, on 12

September, a combined team comprising 20 officials of Nay Pyi Taw Forest Department intercepted a truck loaded with 749 illegally-cut timbers weighing 5.4496 tons at the check point in Dekkhinathiri Township.

Action was taken against five people on board including the driver and the owner of the illegal timber.—MNA



A photo shows a truck with illegally-cut timbers near Bodhimyaing in Zeyathiri Township.

MNA

NATIONAL

Workshop held for emerging Myanmar Labour Migration Policy

Labour

YANGON, 19 Sept—The Workshop on preparation for 5th ASEAN Seminar on Migrant Workers and Workshop on Consultation for Myanmar Labour Migration Policy and National Action Plan was held at MICT Park in Hline

Campus, here today, made an address by Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint.

The Deputy Ministers and the director-generals, members from Work Supervisory Committee and three sub-committee in

foreign country, the region/state labour ministers, the ministers related to labour affairs, the departmental heads under the Ministry of Labour, and representatives from NGO, private bank and responsible persons altogether 110 attended the

workshop.

The plans are under way to discuss Myanmar Labour Migration Policy at the workshop. The workshop will keep on holding on 19th and 20th September.

MNA

MRD (Lower Myanmar), WHO hold workshop on Promotion of Bioethics

Health



YANGON, 19 Sept—Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) and World Health Organization jointly organized Workshop on Promotion of Bioethics in Myanmar in Yangon on 17 September.

The workshop, which

was held at the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar), is aimed at promotion of bioethics in the public health care services and medical research fields, said Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin.

The Union minister stressed the need for

teaching further medical ethics at the universities of medicines and assured the ministry's support for implementing the outcomes from the workshop.

The workshop is participated by experts from Myanmar Academy of Medical Science,

universities of medicines, Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) University of Mary Land and Johns Hopkin University.

Sixty trainees from the departments under the Ministry of Health and 13 observers from NGOs are attending the workshop.

After the opening ceremony of the workshop, the Union minister also attended the Meeting 5/2012 of Executive Committee of the Myanmar Medical Council held at the council in Bahan Township.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union minister urged the members of the council to understand aims and tasks of the council and to work in the interests of the people and the medical world.

MNA

Relaxation of export/import policies conducted

News in Brief

The training course No 1/2012 for relaxation of export/import policies and eradication of illegal trade concluded at New Palace Hotel in Lashio on 18 September morning. Altogether 97 trainees attended the course from 12 to 18 September.

Basic local and foreign investment course commences

The basic local and foreign investment course was opened at the hall of Mon State in Mawlamyine on 17 September. Departmental officials gave lectures on rules and regulations of their departments. A total of 87 trainees attended the course.

Land management laws course kicks off

The multiplier course on farmland law, vacant, virgin and fallow land management law and rules was provided to district, township and sub-township heads of Settlement and Land Records Department at Myitkyina District SLRD on 17 September. Altogether 90 trainees attended the three-day course.

Hsanhsaing BEHS gets new building

New two-storey building was opened at Hsanhsaing Basic Education High School in Tachilek on 16 September. The building was constructed at a cost of K 140 million and the staff quarter at a cost of K 80 million. The buildings were donated by the Union Government, Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw and local people.

Two cultural university students leave for China

Second year students Ma Htoo Thinza Wai (Editing) and Ma May Thin Khaing (Acting) of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) of Ministry of Culture left here by air yesterday afternoon. They will attend the 8th China-ASEAN Pageants Contest and Fine Arts Concert to be held in Guangxi Province from 21 to 27 September.

Collision of motorcycle and car leaves one dead

District News

PYAY, 19 Sept—Wave 125 motorcycle driven by Ko Lu Htwa (a) Kyaw Zin Tun, 20, son of U Win Shwe from Pyay to Paungtale collided with Nissan driven by U Myint Hsaung, 44, son of U Mar Din from Kyaukpadaung to Yangon near University of Computer Studies on Pyay-Aunglan Road in Pyay at 8.30 am on 16 September.

Ko Lu Htwa (a) Kyaw Zin Tun died on the spot with injuries at forehead and head. Pyay Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against U Myint Hsaung under law.

Myanma Alin

UMFCCI, Hanns Seidel focus on economic development

YANGON, 19 Sept—Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Hanns Seidel Foundation (Myanmar) jointly organized the Myanmar's policy in Social & Economic Development at Mingala Hall on the first floor of the federation, here, on 8 September.



President of the federation U Win Aung gave a speech. Resident Representative of Hanns Seidel Foundation (Myanmar) Mr Achin Munz made a speech. Next, Professor Dr Herr read the papers on Design and Role of Financial Systems in Economic Development, and Professor Dr Rainer Stachuletz on Commodity Markets Institutions,

Financial and monetary affairs discussed



YANGON, 19 Sept—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Daiwa PI Partners of Japan jointly organized the workshop on raising financial assistance for businesses was held at the hall of the federation on 11 September.

President of the federation U Win Aung made a speech. Managing Director Mr Shigeto Inami of Myanmar Securities Exchange Centre Co Ltd read the paper on Raising Capita Through Security Market, Managing Director Mr Koshi Okamura of Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd on Developing a Business Plan to Secure Funding, and Director Mr Go Fujiyama of Daiwa PI Partners Co Ltd on Accelerating Growth with Private Equity Fund.

The participants discussed micro-credit scheme, prospects for emergence of stock share market, probability of public security exchange market and facts about financial and monetary affairs.—Myanma Alin

Pricing and the role of Speculation. Joint General Secretary Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe and economist U Khin Maung Nyo reviewed the papers. The attendees discussed matters related to financial reform, exchange views on international financial and central bank systems, dos and don'ts for seeking market of commodity items, situation of Myanmar banks and services, and future tasks.—Myanma Alin

Weightlifting referee examination on 30 September

YANGON, 19 Sept—With a view to enabling the referees of international level to discharge duties in the weightlifting event of the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar in 2013, the weightlifting referee examination will be held at the hall of Myanmar Weightlifting Federation at Aung San Stadium at 9 am on 30 September.

The candidates are to sit for the exam in English. The candidates must be licence holders of the federation. Those wishing to sit for the examination are to enlist at the generation (Aung San Stadium), Tel: 388160, not later than 27 September.—MNA

Paddy seeds handed over to farmers

YANGON, 19 Sept—Heavy rains flooded 24 village-tracts of Taikkyi Township in August. In the floods, 3909 acres of paddy fields were destroyed in the villages. Yangon Region Government donated 1470 baskets of Yadana Toe strains of paddy seeds and Diamond Star Co 300 baskets

of paddy seeds to the farmers for regrowing paddy in the subsided farmlands.

At the hall of the Township General Administration Department, Acting Township Administrator U Aung Hlaing Myat and members of the agricultural supervisory committee handed over paddy seeds to the farmers who had lost paddy farms in the recent floods.—Myanma Alin



WORLD

Mexican growers urge new tomato pact as Florida group digs in

WASHINGTON, 19 Sept—Mexican tomato growers are urging the US Commerce Department to renegotiate a 16-year-old tomato trade agreement with the United States, rather than give into election-year pressure from Florida producers and lawmakers to tear up the pact.

"Commerce has received a request by the Mexican signatories for consultations regarding the suspension agreement. We have agreed to hold consultations and expect to do so soon," a Commerce official told *Reuters* on Tuesday.

Florida tomato growers complain the agreement is outdated and fails to protect them against Mexican tomatoes sold in the United States below the cost of production.

Tearing up the

agreement would allow Florida producers to file a new anti-dumping complaint, alarming the Mexican side that prefers the stability provided by the pact.

With Florida growers pressing for a Commerce Department decision before the 6 November presidential election, Mexican growers offered a proposal on Monday to renegotiate the pact, representatives for the Mexican industry said.

"We've always said to them and the world that we're more than open to explore and address any issues that they may see," said Martin Ley, an executive board member of the Fresh Produce Association of the Americas.

Reggie Brown, executive vice president of the Florida Tomato Exchange, said his group did not want a new agreement.

"We're still dealing with Commerce Department and



Galdino Gonzalez shows tomatoes to Reuters journalists at an urban vegetable garden in the Iztapalapa District, Mexico City, on 31 July, 2008.—REUTERS

the Obama administration pandering to Mexicans. This is crazy. When are we going to worry about American farmers?" he said.

Florida is the second-largest US producer of tomatoes behind California. US production of both fresh and processing tomatoes

Mexico

totals about \$2 billion annually.

Mexico accounts for about 71 percent of the US import market for greenhouse tomatoes. Mexico and Florida historically compete for the US winter and early spring market.

Reuters

Spanish king calls for unity in difficult times Spain

MADRID, 19 Sept—King Juan Carlos of Spain on Tuesday appealed to nationalists to leave their feelings to one side given the current crisis.

In a letter published on the official website of the Spanish Royal Family, Juan Carlos said the country was in a decisive moment to assure the welfare state which cost so much to achieve.

"In these circumstances, the worst thing we can do is to divide our strength, feed dissent, follow dreams and open wounds," reads the letter.

"It is time for unity of society on all levels in defence of the social and democratic model that we have all chosen," the King wrote, admitting his worries over the current economic climate, while highlighting the values of "work, effort, merit, generosity, dialogue, ethics, sacrificing personal interests for the general interest."

The King published the letter less than a week after over a million people demonstrated on the streets of Barcelona in favour of the independence of the Catalan region in the north-east of the country. The sheer numbers of people who took part in the march came as a shock to the rest of Spain, but serves to highlight the increased nationalist feeling in Catalonia, where among other things, most people speak the Catalan language rather than the Castilian Spanish used in the rest of the country (with the exception of the Basque Country, another region with strong pro-independence feelings).—*Xinhua*

New Zealand Antarctic expert calls for halt to Ross Sea fishing New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 19 Sept — A leading New Zealand expert on the Antarctic on Tuesday called for Antarctic Treaty nations to stop illegal and unregulated fishing in the Ross Sea.

University of Canterbury Professor Bryan Storey, reacting to comments by Philippa Ross, a descendent of the man who discovered the Ross Sea in 1841, said more needed to be known about the lifecycle of the Antarctic toothfish, which was fished in the Ross Sea.

"We need more data and more research to establish if the fishery is sustainable," Storey said in a statement.

"In the meantime, many people would say, let's stop fishing and get on with the research but in reality this never seems to happen. The biggest problem with making the Ross Sea a marine protected area is to control illegal and unregulated fishing," he said.

"Before setting up a marine protected area, we need to have a viable protection/policing system in place first to stop illegal and unregulated fishing. I am not aware that this system is in place yet."

Philippa Ross, the great-great-great-granddaughter of British naval officer and polar explorer James Clark Ross, told the *New Zealand Herald* newspaper on Tuesday that the New Zealand government was a disgrace in its failure to protect one of the last intact marine ecosystems in the world.—*Xinhua*

British housing market has long wait to recovery UK

LONDON, 19 Sept—British house prices, at least those outside London, won't rise for at least another year as unemployment stays high and bank lending conditions remain restrictive, a *Reuters* poll forecast on Tuesday.

Average home prices, which fell a fifth in just two years from their peak in 2007, will slip a little over 1 percent this year and stagnate in 2013, according to the consensus from a regular survey of 25 market watchers, taken over the past week.

However prices in the capital, one of the world's busiest financial centres where demand nearly always tends to outstrip supply, are expected to rise 3.0 percent this year and 2.0 percent next, medians from a smaller sample suggested. With the economy officially in recession, unemployment at 8.1 percent, not far below a 17-year high,

and banks imposing tough criteria before lending money, the housing market is struggling.

"Everything will hold prices back," said Michael Saunders at Citi. "It's unemployment, credit availability, affordability — everything." During a 10-year boom to 2007, average house prices in Britain tripled. But that bubble has partially burst, knocking what has long been a bedrock of consumer wealth.



A row of terraced houses are seen below an apartment block in London on 30 Aug, 2011.—REUTERS

After hitting a trough in early 2009 during the worst of the financial crisis, average house prices rebounded. But they are now back in a mild downdraft, leaving them down a little more than 10 percent from the top.

A comfortable majority in the poll, 14 of 23 participants, said British house prices have further to fall, with the most pessimistic respondent predicting a 40 percent plunge from here.

Reuters



California Governor Jerry Brown speaks at a news conference to announce the Public Employee Pension Reform Act of 2012 at Ronald Reagan State Building in Los Angeles, California on 28 August, 2012. REUTERS

California governor signs work injury insurance bill US

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 Sept—California Gov Jerry Brown signed a bill on Tuesday that will increase disability benefits for workers injured on the job while reining in the rising cost of their workers' compensation insurance premiums. Lawmakers approved the bill last month on the last day of their regular session after Brown personally appealed to them to support it.

The last time leaders of the most populous US state had revised the workers' compensation system was in 2004 under then-governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The legislation signed by Brown had

the support of labour and business groups. Lawyers who represent injured workers opposed the bill, which will curb lawsuits over injury claims. With other changes, the bill is estimated to save California businesses \$1 billion next year while freeing up funds to boost payments to disabled workers.

"These significant reforms save hundreds of millions of dollars for California's employers while preventing an imminent crisis of skyrocketing rates that would have hurt both injured workers and businesses," Brown, a Democrat, said in a statement after signing the bill.—*Reuters*

Poll Shows most Americans support strong relations with China

WASHINGTON, 19 Sept—Most Americans support the US government to build a strong relationship with China, as they consider China as a competitor rather than an enemy, finds a poll released on Tuesday.

Sixty-five percent of Americans view the relations between the two powers as generally good, compared with 29 percent who think otherwise. Meanwhile, 55 percent of Americans advocate building a strong relationship with China, according to the poll conducted by the Pew Research Centre's Global Attitudes Project on 30 April-13 May among 1,004 American adults. The poll also finds that most Americans remain vigilant about China's fast rise as a world power. Sixty-six percent of Americans regard China as a competitor, compared with 16 percent who see China as a partner, and 15 percent who see it as an enemy. Fifty-two percent of Americans consider China's rise as a major threat, compared with 35 percent who say it is a minor threat, and 9 percent who say it is not a threat at all.

However, compared with other international threats, China's ascent doesn't rank among the list of American public's top concerns, which is topped by Iran's nuclear programme and Islamic extremist groups (70 percent), followed by the nuclear issue of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) (69 percent), international financial instability (65 percent), and drug-related violence in Mexico (61 percent).—*Xinhua*

REGIONAL



The Boeing 737-800 ecoDemonstrator airplane is seen at the Reagan National Airport in Washington DC, capital of the United States, on 18 Sept, 2012. Boeing and American Airlines on Tuesday showcased a Next-Generation 737-800 airplane known as ecoDemonstrator here to highlight testing of environmentally progressive technologies. The visit to Washington DC follows extensive flight testing in Glasgow, Montana, where it flew a series of missions designed to test and accelerate advanced technologies that increase fuel efficiency and reduce airplane noise. —XINHUA

Philippine gov't concerned on rising underemployment

Philippines

MANILA, 19 Sept— The Philippine Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) on Tuesday raised concern on the increasing number of underemployed Filipinos.

DOLE Secretary Rosa-linda Baldoz noted that under the latest labour force survey (LFS) conducted in July, there were 8.546 million underemployed persons in the country, or 22.7 percent of the working population, an increase of 1.451 million from a year earlier.

“One indicator in the July 2012 LFS that seriously concerns us at the DOLE is the rising number of underemployed persons. These are employed persons who want additional hours of work in their present job; or who want to have additional job; or who want a new job with longer working hours,” she said.

Baldoz said that the increase in under-employment rate occurred largely among wage and salary workers in private establishments where most of the employment expansion during the quarter had been materialized.

But except for the underemployment rate, all the other LFS indicators showed that the country’s unemployment rate is within its target range of 6.8 percent to 7.2 percent for 2012, the DOLE chief said.

The unemployment rate eased from 7.1 percent in July 2011 to 7.0 percent in July 2012, as the survey indicated.

Xinhua

Asian Seismological Commission meeting held in Mongolia

Mongolia

ULAN BATOR, 19 Sept— Scientists from nearly 120 countries are discussing the latest in seismic research during the ninth General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission.

Mongolian Deputy Prime Minister Dendev Terbishdagva said at the meeting’s opening on Monday that the gathering held great significance for Mongolia’s efforts to prevent possible seismic disasters and improve rescue operations in case of earthquakes.

Terbishdagva said that by hosting the assembly, Mongolia can receive advice and recommendations from international professional organizations on how to train its people and make the country better prepared for possible disasters.—Xinhua

Vietnam to create favourable conditions for German businesses: PM

Vietnam

HANOI, 19 Sept— The Vietnamese government will create favourable conditions for German businesses to invest in Vietnam, especially in the fields of production, infrastructure construction and other key projects, said Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung here on Tuesday. Dung made the remarks during a meeting with visiting German Federal Minister of Economics and Technology Philipp Roesler.

Roesler said that his visit aims at further promoting cooperation between the two countries and emphasized that Germany will support Vietnam in the fields of finance and technology and increase the level of official development assistance for Vietnam.

On the same day, the German minister and Vietnamese Minister of Planning and Investment Bui Quang Vinh co-hosted the Vietnam- Germany Business Forum to boost economic and investment ties. As of mid-August, Germany has invested in 184 valid projects in Vietnam, worth 904 million US dollars, ranking 24 out of 95 countries and territories investing in Vietnam. Vietnam and Germany established diplomatic relations in 1975.—Xinhua

Laos, Thailand send personnel to testify in Mekong River trial

Mekong Region

KUNMING, 19 Sept—Laos and Thailand will send relevant personnel to China on Thursday to testify in a trial concerning a deadly attack that left 13 Chinese sailors dead on the Mekong River last year, local authorities said on Tuesday.

Witnesses from the two countries will take the stand to testify in the case, the Yunnan Provincial Public Security Department said.

Although the incident happened overseas and all the suspects are foreigners, the fact that the victims are all Chinese and that the crime occurred on Chinese ships indicates that China has

jurisdiction over the case, the department said.

In the wake of the incident, the Ministry of Public Security called together a special investigation task force and sent investigators to Thailand, Laos and Myanmar to work on the case with police there.

A joint investigation by police from China, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand found that Naw Kham, core members of the gang and a small number of Thai soldiers planned and conducted the murder of 13 Chinese sailors on two cargo ships on 5 Oct last year.

Naw Kham, the principal suspect in the attack, and another five suspects will stand trial at 9:30 am on Thursday at the Intermediate People’s Court of the provincial capital of Kunming, the court said.

They will be charged with intentional homicide, drug trafficking, kidnapping and hijacking by the Kunming People’s Procuratorate.

Thirteen Chinese sailors were confirmed dead after two cargo ships, the Hua Ping and Yu Xing 8, were hijacked on 5 Oct, 2011 on the Mekong River.

Xinhua



Afghan officers check seized weapons during a surrender ceremony in Nangarhar Province, east Afghanistan, on 18 Sept, 2012. A total of 21 Taliban fighters laid down arms and joined the government-backed peace process in Nangarhar Province on Tuesday, officials said.—XINHUA

Japan declares US Osprey safe, to fly in Japan by October

Japan

public opposition largely on safety grounds after it crashed twice earlier this year.

Final results of crash investigations have confirmed that the helicopter-plane is safe and the United States will begin deployment at some point in October, Defence Minister Satoshi Morimoto said. “We have confirmed that the two accidents were caused by human factors and not by the aircrafts’ systemic problems or by technical problems,” he said, addressing reporters together with Foreign Minister Koichiro Gamba.

“We have confirmed the safety for the Osprey to operate, and on the premise that there will be maximum consideration provided for the public, we have decided to allow the United States to start operating the Osprey.”

The Osprey crash in Morocco in April killed two US Marines, while the one in Florida in June left five injured. Thirty people, including 26 Marines, were killed in test flights or training accidents from 1991 through 2000 during the aircraft’s development.

The first 12 MV-22s arrived by ship on 23 July at Iwakuni, the only US Marine Corps station on the main Japanese islands. The Defence Department ultimately plans to base them at Futenma, a Marine Corps Air Station on Okinawa. They were grounded for the time of the investigation.

Reuters

An MV-22 (Osprey) aircraft arrives for a test flight with the Japanese delegation at the Pentagon landing field in Washington on 3 August, 2012.—REUTERS





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M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
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Dated: 20 September 2012

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MV PHUONG NAM-69 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NAM-69 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(4) 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 CO. LTD.

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZAMBALES VOY NO (106)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZAMBALES VOY NO (106) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD.
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PAC ARIES VOY NO (002)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAC ARIES VOY NO (002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Munch's \$120 million

"The Scream" to be displayed at NY museum

NEW YORK, 19 Sept—Edvard Munch's "The Scream," which sold for \$120 million at Sotheby's (BID N) in May, will be displayed at New York's Museum of Modern Art for six months, the museum said on Tuesday.

Munch created four versions of "The Scream" between 1893 and 1910. The 1895 pastel-on-board image of a man holding his head and screaming as he stands beneath a red and yellow sky is the only one in private hands.

It was reportedly bought by US financier Leon Black and is the most expensive artwork ever sold at auction. The other versions are in museums in Norway.

Black is the lead partner of Apollo Global Management and No 330 on Forbes' list of billionaires. He sits on the boards of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) and New York's

MODERN ART



"The Scream" painted by Edvard Munch at a Sotheby's auction in New York on 2 May, 2012.

REUTERS

Metropolitan Museum of Art.

"The Scream" will be on view at MoMA from 24 October until 29 April, 2013.

Reuters

O'Reilly is the host of "The O'Reilly Factor" on Fox News Channel. Both men have occasionally appeared on one another's shows.

The "Rumble" is timed to coincide with the three US presidential television debates between President Barack Obama and Republican rival Mitt Romney. They will take place on 3, 16 and 22 October.

Reuters



Comedian Jon Stewart addresses the crowd during the "Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear" in Washington, on 30 October, 2010.

REUTERS

ENTERTAINMENT

Bieber, One Direction top list of young music acts

history in March when it became the first UK group to debut at the top of the Billboard 200 chart with its first album.

Singer Demi Lovato, 20, came in third on the list. The former Disney Channel star joined the judging panel on TV singing competition "X Factor" this year. Rounding out the top five were country singer and "American Idol" winner Scotty McCreery, 18, and rapper Mac Miller, 20.

Below is Billboard's full "21 Under 21" list:

1. Justin Bieber
2. One Direction
3. Demi Lovato
4. Scotty McCreery
5. Mac Miller
6. Selena Gomez
7. Porter Robinson
8. Cher Lloyd
9. Earl Sweatshirt
10. Nick Jonas
11. Jackie Evancho
12. Cody Simpson
13. Mindless Behavior
14. Megan & Liz
15. IU
16. Bridgit Mendler
17. 3BallMTY
18. Miley Cyrus
19. Madeon
20. Ross Lynch
21. Victoria Justice.

Reuters

Bill O'Reilly, Jon Stewart to hold presidential-style 'rumble'

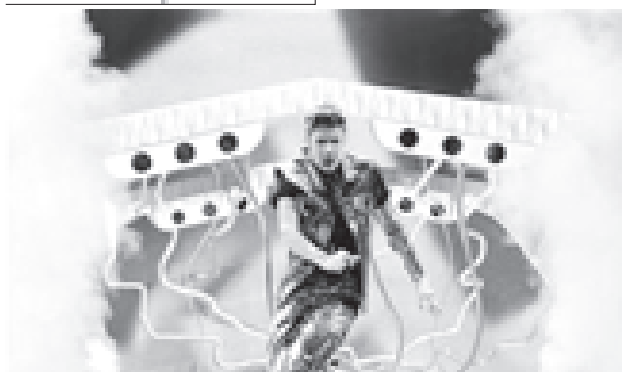
WASHINGTON, 19 Sept—Conservative political commentator Bill O'Reilly and late night comedian Jon Stewart will face off next month in a presidential-style debate that will be streamed live on the Web.

The 90-minute October 6 event, announced in a joint statement by the two media personalities, is being called "The Rumble in the Air-Conditioned Auditorium." It will be moderated by CNN news anchor E.D. Hill.

Stewart is known for poking fun at cable news show hosts such as O'Reilly on

Comedy Central's satirical "The Daily Show."

"I believe this will be a very enjoyable night for fans of our programs, political junkies, partisans and people who just enjoy yelling," Stewart said in a statement.



LOS ANGELES, 19 Sept—Justin Bieber topped Billboard's "21 Under 21" list of the world's top young musical acts for the second year in a row, fending off

stiff competition from British boy band One Direction.

Bieber, 18, "remains more powerful in the pop universe than ever", Billboard said, having released two No 1 albums in the last year - holiday set "Under the Mistletoe" and his latest pop album, "Believe".

"Bieber is the supernova of teen pop stars with charisma, popularity and swagger to spare ... it's Biebs' world, and we're lucky to live in it," the music publication said.

One Direction, whose five members range in age from 18 to 20, burst onto the US pop scene just six months ago after first soaring to success in their native Britain. Managed by British TV entrepreneur Simon Cowell, One Direction made

Singer Justin Bieber performs at the 2012 Teen Choice Awards at the Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, California on 22 July, 2012.

REUTERS

SPORTS



Jim Furyk of the US hits a drive from the sixteenth tee during round one of the BMW Championship golf tournament in Carmel, Indiana September 6, 2012.
REUTERS

FedExCup uncertainty for Furyk at East Lake

Golf

NEW YORK, 19 Sept—Jim Furyk knows what it is like to clinch FedExCup honours but even he is not certain what he needs to do to repeat his 2010 triumph at this week's Tour Championship. An elite field of 30 players will tee off in Thursday's opening round at East Lake Golf Club where the lucrative PGA Tour event is on the line along with a staggering \$10 million bonus for securing the season-long playoff title.

Furyk landed both honours two years ago but this week he lies 18th in the FedExCup points standings and would need a lot of help from higher-ranked players to pull off a repeat double.

"Nope, I have no idea," the American told reporters on Tuesday when asked if he was fully versed in what he needed to do to emulate his 2010 FedExCup success. "I know I would have to win (the Tour Championship), and a lot of (other) things

would have to happen. But I'm never really worried about that.

"I had two or three friends try to text me, 'do you know what you have to do?' No. It's hard enough winning a golf tournament. I can't control the rest."

For Furyk to complete the 'double' this week, he would need to win the Tour Championship and, among several other requirements, top-ranked Rory McIlroy would have to finish 12th or worse and second-ranked Tiger Woods fifth or worse.

"Two years ago I was (ranked) 11th (going into the Tour Championship) and needed a little work," added Furyk, who triumphed by one shot at East Lake in 2010. "But (this week) those top 10 to 12 guys probably have a really good opportunity."

"Then past that, it's going to take a lot of help because the guys that are up there at the top have been playing very well."—Reuters

McIlroy a targeted player at Ryder Cup, says Furyk

ATLANTA, 19 Sept—World number one Rory McIlroy is the player to beat at this week's Tour Championship and will be a "marked man" when he and his fellow Europeans defend the Ryder Cup next week outside Chicago, says American Jim Furyk.

Northern Irishman McIlroy has won three times in his last four PGA Tour starts and, according to Furyk, is the "present-day" Tiger Woods.

"Obviously, he's a marked man," Furyk told reporters at East Lake Golf Club on Tuesday. "He's the number one player in the world. He's going to garner all the attention, as well he should. He's played phenomenal this year."

"(He) won the PGA (Championship) by a ton of shots, won his last two events coming in here and no matter how he plays here at the Tour Championship, he's right now the present-day Tiger Woods where everyone's eyes are on

him.

"Tiger is still Tiger and everyone would love to see that pairing in the Ryder Cup," said Furyk, referring to a mouth-watering potential matchup in the last-day singles.

McIlroy has won a season-high four times on the PGA Tour, and began his current sizzling run with a staggering eight-shot victory at last month's PGA Championship to claim his second major title.—Reuters



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland reacts after missing a putt on the 15th green during the final round of the PGA Championship golf tournament in Carmel, Indiana on 9 September, 2012.—REUTERS

Arsenal recover to ruin Montpellier's debut

MONTPELLIER, 19 Sept—Arsenal recovered from an early setback and the absence of manager Arsene Wenger from the dugout to ruin Montpellier's Champions League debut with a 2-1 victory in their opening Group B match on Tuesday. With all eyes on former Montpellier favourite Olivier Giroud, returning to his old club just

months after firing them to the title, goals from Lukas Podolski and Gervinho cancelled out Younes Belhanda's early penalty to earn Arsenal the points as they began a 15th straight season in the Champions League.

Montpellier battled desperately for an equaliser after the break but Arsenal survived to maintain their



Montpellier's Garry Bocaly (R) challenges Arsenal's Gervinho during their Champions League soccer match at the Stade de la Mosson stadium in Montpellier, on 18 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Classic win for Real, joy for PSG and Malaga

LONDON, 19 Sept—Real Madrid fashioned a stunning comeback to beat Manchester City 3-2 in a classic Champions League match with a last-gasp Cristiano Ronaldo strike in their Group D opener on Tuesday.

There were also wins for Paris St Germain, who beat Dynamo Kiev 4-1 on their return to the competition after eight years, newcomers Malaga, who beat Zenit St Petersburg 3-0 and former Champions League holders Porto who won 2-0 at Dinamo Zagreb.

In a clash of ex-European title winners Borussia Dortmund beat Ajax Amsterdam 1-0 while seven-times European champions AC Milan were booed off after a 0-0 home draw against Anderlecht.

But the outstanding game of the night was in

Madrid where all five goals at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium came in the final 22 minutes with City taking a 1-0 lead through Edin Dzeko before Marcelo equalised six minutes later.

Aleksandar Kolarov put City back in front with a free-kick after 85 minutes which looked like the winner before Karim Benzema equalised in the 87th and Ronaldo, the ex-Manchester United forward, struck in the 90th to bury the visitors.

Real are aiming to become European champions for the 10th time at Wembley Stadium next May and their opening group win, against the odds in the closing minutes, will only boost their confidence after a slow start to their domestic season. "I celebrate when I have to celebrate," a jubilant Ronaldo, who has now scored 151 goals in 151

record of never having lost a European tie against French opposition in France. "It was great to score again. I like these situations, it was a great pass by Olivier (Giroud) and I feel good in those moments," Podolski said.

"We played well in the first half but not so good in the second. But we got the three points and that is important. We know we can improve." Montpellier coach Rene Girard told reporters: "We can have a lot of regrets because the match was almost over in two minutes for us. You cannot be happy when you lose but I think we bothered them like they rarely are." It had all started so well for Montpellier. There were just nine minutes on the clock when Thomas Vermaelen was adjudged to have fouled Belhanda on the edge of the area and the Moroccan got up to chip his spot kick past Arsenal keeper Vito Mannone.—Reuters



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates scoring the winning goal against Manchester City during their Champions League Group D soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 18 September, 2012.—REUTERS

appearances for Real, said in an interview with Spanish television.

"The match was very important for us and we are back in the fight," added the Portuguese international, who took his tally to 39 Champions League goals.

Reuters

Milan's draw with Anderlecht small step forward

Soccer

ROME, 19 Sept—AC Milan head coach Massimiliano Allegri said that his side's 0-0 with Anderlecht in the Champions League on Tuesday was "a small step forward".

"My lads played with effort, courage and intensity, while Anderlecht never had a shot on target. It is a small step forward, as we kept a clean sheet, so now we've

got to score against Udinese," he said. "The positives are that we did not allow any clear scoring opportunities, but the negative is that we wasted some good chances and at the moment that's just the way things are going. My lads did the most they could in a moment that is not easy."

"Our opponents seem to score with their only chance, so we were worried towards

Tennis



Venus Williams

Venus Williams to make Hopman Cup debut with Isner

SYDNEY, 19 Sept—Venus Williams will make her Hopman Cup debut in Perth later this year, partnering John Isner to represent the United States in the mixed international tournament, organizers said on Wednesday.

Seven-times grand slam champion Williams will have a chance to match her sister Serena, who won the tournament in 2008 with Mardy Fish and five years earlier with James Blake.

"I've never been to Perth — I've never played the Hopman Cup, so for me it's going to be a wonderful experience," Williams said in a media release.

"I've watched it literally every year on TV so now I get to play, I'm very excited."

World number 10 Isner won the title in 2011 with Bethanie Mattek-Sands, who stands at 5ft 6in-tall to his 6ft 9in (2.06m). Williams is 6ft 1in (1.85m).

"My previous two partners have been very, very small," said Isner.

"But Venus is a little bit taller so I'm not going to look like such a giant out there. She's obviously one of the greatest players ever so I think our team has a good shot to do well."—Reuters



the end that Anderlecht would get a lucky winner."

"It's a shame, as a victory would've been important for the lads tonight, as it's certainly not a positive moment psychologically. I still think we're on the right path and am relaxed, just as I was before the game," he said.

Xinhua

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(20-9-12 09:30 am ~ 21-9-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Wathan Film Festival (Closing Ceremony)
- * News
- * Information Security Awareness Animation
- * News
- * Potent Noni, Organic Medicine
- * News
- * Football (International Friendly Match Myanmar Vs Singapore)
- * Land of Frog Drums Welcomes you
- * News
- * Around The Maha Boditahtaung
- * Promising Future for Myanmar Citizens
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Certificate Awarding Ceremony of Cambridge Young Learner's Exams
- * News
- * Aspect of Disaster Early Warning System
- * News
- * Road to 27th SEA GAMES "Cycling"
- * Myanmar Movie "Venus Flytrap"

MYANMAR TV

(20-9-2012) (Thursday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:40 am
- 2. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:25 am
- 3. Song Of National Races
- 8:30 am
- 4. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Modern Song) (Higher Education) (Level Women)
- 4:00 pm
- 5. Martial Song
- 4:30 pm
- 6. One Village and One Product
- 5:00 pm
- 7. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
- 8. Science and Environment
- 5:15 pm
- 9. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Modern Song) (Higher Education) (Level Women)
- 5:30 pm
- 10. India Drama Series
- 6:20 pm
- 11. Myanmar Series
- 7:00 pm
- 12. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 13. News
- 14. 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (2012) Interview (Opera)
- 15. TV Drama Series
- 16. TV Drama Series

China's Xi meets Panetta, wants better military ties with US

BEIJING, 19 Sept—China's leader-in-waiting Xi Jinping on Wednesday held his first talks with a foreign official since vanishing from the public eye nearly two weeks ago, telling US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta he wanted to advance ties with the United States.

Vice-President Xi's disappearance had prompted widespread rumours that he was ill or worse ahead of this year's five-yearly Communist Party Congress when he is expected to be named party chief.

Asked if he had learned why Xi had been out of view for some time, Panetta referred the question to the Chinese government but added: "Frankly, my impression was that he was very healthy and very engaged."

He said their scheduled 45-minute meeting had run over by more than half an hour, in part because the vice president "was very much engaged in the discussion" and wanted to raise a range of bilateral strategic issues facing the two countries.

"I believe that your visit will be very helpful in further advancing the state-to-state and mil-to-mil (military-to-military) relations between our two countries," Xi told Panetta during a welcoming ceremony at the Great Hall of the People.

Pentagon spokesman George Little called the discussions constructive and candid, covering issues ranging from North

Korea to "the importance of the peaceful resolution of maritime territorial disputes".

Panetta's visit has come at a fraught time for China, which is in the midst of a row with US ally Japan over who owns a small group of islands in the East China Sea. The dispute has triggered anti-Japanese protests in China in the past few days.

Critics in China believe that a US move to shift its strategic focus to the region has encouraged countries like Japan to be more bold when dealing with Beijing.

But Panetta, in remarks later to cadets at a Chinese military academy, sought to convince Beijing that the shift in focus was not an attempt to hem in China.

Panetta told students at the Armored Forces Engineering Academy that expanding US missile defenses in Asia were aimed at North Korea, not China, and that deepening US defence ties with allies in the region were to reinforce a security system that had helped China flourish.

"Our rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region is not an attempt to contain China," he said. "It is an attempt to engage China and expand its role in the Pacific. It is about creating a new model in the relationship of two Pacific powers."

Panetta's remarks echoed the message delivered in meetings with defence and political leaders during his three-day visit.—Reuters



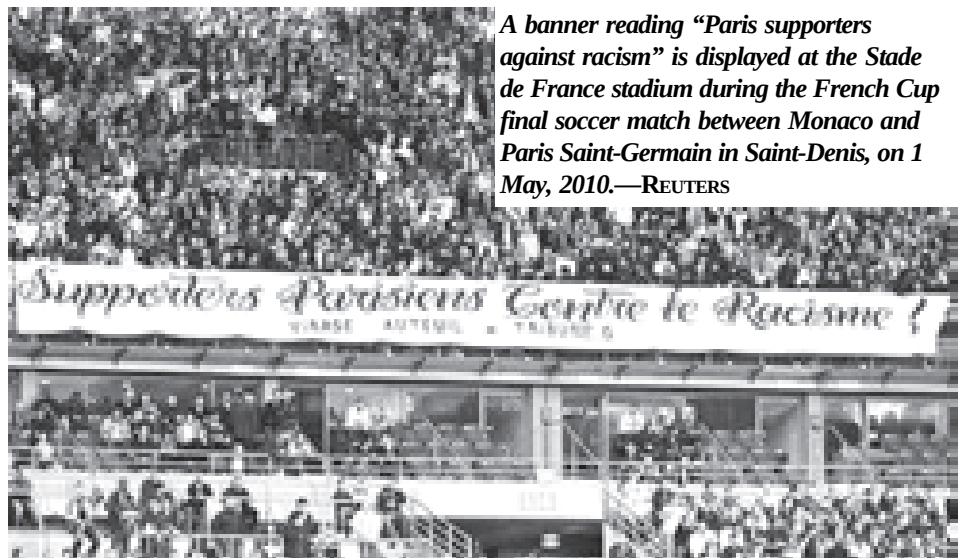
US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta (L) sits with China's Vice President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 19 September, 2012.—REUTERS

Fans say homophobia more likely than racism

LONDON, 19 Sept—Homophobia may now be a bigger problem in British soccer than racism, a report published by the government said on Wednesday.

The study, undertaken by a cross-party parliamentary committee, found that while anti-racism schemes had proved successful, fans were becoming increasingly aware of homophobic chants at grounds.

"Evidence is now emerging that homophobia may now be a bigger problem in soccer than other forms of discrimination," the report said. "Recent research found that 25 percent of fans think that soccer is homophobic while 10 percent think that soccer is racist."



A banner reading "Paris supporters against racism" is displayed at the Stade de France stadium during the French Cup final soccer match between Monaco and Paris Saint-Germain in Saint-Denis, on 1 May, 2010.—REUTERS

It added that 14 percent of match attendees questioned had reported hearing homophobic abuse.

"The FA should work with relevant organizations and charities to develop and

then promote a high-profile campaign to highlight the damaging effect of homophobic language and behavior in and around soccer at every level," the report concluded.

"The campaign should identify sources of support for affected individuals as well as setting out a clear reporting structure for homophobic incidents."

Reuters

Study: two-thirds of Oklahoma adults to be obese by 2030

HOUSTON, 19 Sept—About 66.4 percent of adults in the US state of Oklahoma could be obese by 2030, according to a new study released Tuesday.

The number of obese adults, along with related disease rates and health care costs, are on course to increase dramatically in every state across the United States over the next 20 years, said the report by Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson

Foundation.

By 2030, 13 US states could have adult obesity rates above 60 percent, 39 states above 50 percent and all 50 US states could have adult obesity rates above 44 percent, the study predicted.

Mississippi could have the highest obesity rate at 66.7 percent by 2030, while Colorado the lowest rate at 44.8 percent, said the study.

The report warned that the increased obesity rates will result in increases in

disease rates.

If states' obesity rates continue on their current trajectories, the number of new cases of type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease and stroke, hypertension and arthritis could increase 10 times between 2010 and 2020—and double again by 2030, said the report.

The study warned that obesity could contribute to more than 6 million cases of type 2 diabetes, 5 million cases of coronary heart disease and

stroke, and more than 400,000 cases of cancer in the next two decades.

By 2030, medical costs associated with treating preventable obesity-related diseases are estimated to increase by 48 billion US dollars to 66 billion per year in the United States, and the loss in economic productivity could be between 390 billion and 580 billion annually by 2030, said the report.

Xinhua

District News



FIRE DRILL EXERCISED: Fire preventive measures and fire drill was held at Yangon West General Hospital in Kyimyindine Township on 5 September. Head of Sangyoung Zone Fire Services Department Ye Thurein Thein Myint gives talks and a nurse participates in fire drill.—MYANMA ALIN

Three killed, 10 injured in Azerbaijan plant fire

BAKU, 19 Sept—Three people were killed and 10 others injured when a fire engulfed a detergent factory in Azerbaijan, local media reported on Tuesday. Etibar Mirzayev, deputy emergency situations minister, told said the fire, which broke out Monday afternoon in Sumgayit, a Caspian coastal city 31 km northwest of Baku, also triggered explosions of fuel tanks.

Some 150 fire-fighters and 2 helicopters were fighting the blaze, which had been extinguished early Tuesday.

Mirzayev said all the dead were welding workers and the injured include employees of the Fire Prevention Service of the Emergency Situations Ministry.

Sumgayit is the third-largest city in Azerbaijan.—Xinhua

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw leaves for People's Republic of China

YANGON, 19 Sept—To attend the ceremony in commemoration of the World Peace Day, a Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint left here for the People's Republic of China by air at 11.15 am today.

The delegation led by Speaker U Khin Aung Myint was seen off by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, chairmen, secretaries and members of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and Commissions, the Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw and Charge d' Affaires of the Chinese Embassy Mr Lu Zhi.

Speaker U Khin Aung Myint was accompanied by member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Dr Nyi Nyi Tun, officials of Hluttaw office and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and party who leave for China to attend commemoration of the World Peace Day seen off at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and officials.

MNA

Mandalay Region clinches title in U-12 Football Tourney

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—The MFF U-12 Digicel Cup 2012 of inter-basic education school (Upper Myanmar) reached the final match yesterday afternoon.

At Bahtoo Stadium in Mandalay, Mandalay Region won over Magway Region 4-1.

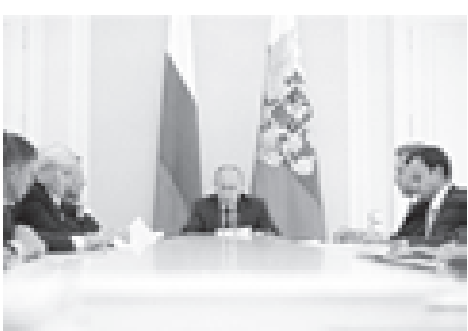
Officials of the Sports and Physical Education Department presented first, second and third prizes to Mandalay, Magway and Kayah State teams respectively and medals to the individual winners.

Deputy Director-General U Myo Thant of No. 2 Basic Education Department awarded the championship trophy to Mandalay Region team.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (19-9-2012)

Patheingyi	(1.92) inches
Myaungmya	(1.81) inches
Haka	(1.10) inches
Yangon (Kaba-Aye)	(1.02) inches
Myittha	(0.87) inch

Moscow forces US to close down its aid mission in Russia



PAGE 6



FedExCup uncertainty for Furyk at East Lake

PAGE 14

UEC Chairman receives IRI Director

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Sept—Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye received Director Ms Johanna Kao of International Republican Institute (IRI) and party at the office of Commission, here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were commission members U Myint Naing, U Win Kyi and U Nyunt Tin.

They held a discussion on IRI's cooperation in holding of free and fair election in Myanmar and giving educative talks on electoral affairs in cooperation with international organizations.—MNA



Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye receives Director Ms Johanna Kao of IRI and party.—MNA

Paddy seeds handed over to farmers

YANGON, 19 Sept—Heavy rains flooded 24 village-tracts of Taikkyi Township in August. In the floods, 3909 acres of paddy fields were destroyed in the villages. Yangon Region Government donated 1470 baskets of Yadana Toe strains of paddy seeds and Diamond Star Co 300 baskets of paddy seeds to the farmers for regrowing paddy in the subsided farmlands.

At the hall of the Township General Administration Department, Acting Township Administrator U Aung Hlaing Myat and members of the agricultural supervisory committee handed over paddy seeds to the farmers who had suffered losses in the recent floods.

Myanma Alin



Thai soccer boss says FA will not be disbanded



FIFA Executive Committee member Worawi Makudi.

BANGKOK, 19 Sept—Thailand's Football Association is not facing disbandment over allegations of corruption, it's president Worawi Makudi said on Wednesday.

Makudi, a FIFA executive committee member and one of the most influential people in Asian soccer, appeared last week before a parliamentary committee to explain the Football Association of Thailand's (FAT) setting up of the Thailand Premier League

company.

A spokesman for the house panel said on Friday the FAT could be disbanded if it was found that its motivation for establishing the company was to generate profit.

Worawi said he was invited to discuss issues related to finance, taxation and strategies for Thai soccer and was baffled by media reports of a possible disbandment.

"The news that the association may face disbandment is very damaging. The association did not do anything against the laws and regulations," Worawi told a news conference. "We did nothing wrong, so why are we talking about the disbandment of the association? I don't understand."

"I believe there is a force out there that is committed to discrediting the association," he added without elaborating.

Supachai Chaisamut, a spokesman for the house corruption committee, said on Friday it was illegal under Thai law for an association such as the FAT to set up a company with the aim of making profits. He said it could be dissolved and probed by the Revenue Department.

Worawi has faced graft allegations in the past but was eventually cleared of any charges.

In 2011, FIFA launched a formal investigation after he was accused of spending \$860,000 in football development grants for projects on land he personally owns. Soccer's world governing body eventually cleared him of any wrongdoing.

The head of the FAT's legal team, Veera Khammee, said the establishment of the Thai Premier League company complied with Thai laws and the requirements of FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation.

Reuters