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Nissan automobile factory to be established in Myanmar

Vice-President U Nyan Tun poses for documentary photo with delegation led by President and CEO of Nissan Motor Co., Ltd Mr Carlos Ghosn at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—Vice-President U Nyan Tun met a delegation led by President and CEO of Nissan Motor Co., Ltd Mr Carlos Ghosn at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace here this morning.

They held a cordial discussion on government's constructive reforms in all sectors such as administration, management and investment for economic development, establishment of world-class Nissan automobile factory and spare parts factory by Nissan Motor Co., Ltd and Tan Chong Group of Companies, creating job opportunities for local people by conducting skill development courses and environment impacts.

Also present at the call together with the Vice-President were Deputy Ministers U Tin Oo Lwin, U Myo Aung and Dr Daw Khin San Yi and officials.—*MNA*

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Second research on fish resources for food sufficiency

Byline: *Nanda Win;*
Photo: *Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)*

According to the weekly meeting of Myanmar Fisheries Federation, the fish research will be conducted at the sea for the second time.

With the assistance of Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and EAF-Nansen project, US$ 500,000 will be spent on conducting research into fish resources at Myanmar Sea with the use of R/V Dr. Fridtjof Nansen during the 38 days from 13 November to 19 December.

"Sounding fishing equipment will be used to do research on fish resource and volume at Rakhine coast, Taninthayi coast and Ayeyawady delta. Dragging fish nets will be used in doing research at the sea bed. The result of the present research will be compared with that of the past so as to contribute to fish resource management," said the vice-president of Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

In 1979-80, a survey on fish and prawn resources was conducted in 102 days by the same vessel in 200-400 metres deep of underwater at EEZ of Myanmar with the assistance of World Food Organization. At that time, it was estimated that Myanmar Sea had over 1.7 million tons of fish and could catch 1.1 million of fish without depletion. A total of 660 kilos of fish could be caught per hour.

In 2007, a survey was conducted at 17 fishing blocks at delta area by MV SEAFDEC 2 research vessel of Thailand. At that time, it was estimated that 86 kilos of fish could be caught per hour. According to the research, seizures of fish declined at the Myanmar sea. However, systematic research has not been conducted for over 30 years.

Fish production from the sea is supplying sufficiency of consumption to the growing number of population. The data received from the research should be issued to the marine fish farmers transparently.

"We proposed to do this research. In the past, the result of research was not made public. An answer should be sought through the participation of organizations. Only then will the fish farmers enjoy benefit from data of research for present seizures of fish, fish species and others," said a member of Myanmar Marine Fish Farmers Association.

Myanma Alinn:
18-9-2013
Trs: TTA

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LOCAL NEWS

Experienced loco driver saves about 200 train passengers

KHINU, 20 Sept— Experienced driver of locomotive saved the lives of about 200 passengers on bridge No 306 on KhinU-Monywa railroad.

Locomotive DD 949 of 60-down local train driven by technician grade II U Khin O and Assistant 1 U Aung Kyaw and guard U Aung Myint Khiang left KhinU Station at 12.05 pm on 12 September.

The workers of locomotive switched on the front lights because they could not see anything in bad weather. At 5.45 pm, the driver saw the abnormal position of rail tracks near Mutein Creek Bridge No. 306. So he immediately decided to stop the train. With this, the train stopped on the railroad before about 20 feet distance of the bridge.

In fact, the bridge was eroded in the flood of the creek and heavy rain. The frames of the bridge were floated into the river and the approach railroad collapsed in the flood. So, there remained rail tracks only at the place of the bridge.

A train passenger remarked that the experienced locomotive driver saved the lives and property. Other wise, no one dares think the terrible incident and all the passengers thanked the drivers and workers for their efforts.

Workers of Myanma Railways are rebuilding the bridge not to cut out the transport facilities when now is time for students of University of Distance Education to attend the intensive lessons. Thanks to the efforts of the workers from Myanma Railways, the train can run along the route passing the already rebuilt bridge as of 18 September.

Kyemon Yaungni Tin Win

Illegal concrete posts removed from department-owned plots

YANGON, 20 Sept— Some people illegally erected the concrete posts on the department-owned plots beside Chindwin Road in Ward 14 of Hlinethaya Township.

Therefore, Deputy Township Administrator U Aung Win Naing of Hlinethaya Township General Administration Department, Head of Township Development Affairs Committee office, officials, discipline enforcement committee members, ward administrator U Aung Pyae, local authorities and policemen banned their acts.

The squatters who said themselves they were owners of the plots evaded from the scene.

The local authotities took off the erected concrete posts from the plots and seized them.

Action will be taken against those who committed an act of squattering acts.

Kyemon-Lin Htet Paing

Natural Disaster

Heavy rains hit Yedashe, inundating residences, farmlands

YEDASHE, 20 Sept— Due to heavy rains on 14 September, Samoe Creek that originates at Bago mountain ranges flowed into Ward 1 and Ward 2 of Yedashe and inundated about 100 houses.

Likewise, one and a half feet deep water inuncated Maggin Street in front of Development Affairs Market, PawU Street, Yazadarit Street, Post-Primary School in Ward 1.

Overflow of creeks and drains flooded Nyaungbinkaing and Nyaungbintha villages and put paddy plantations under the water.

"Blocked drains should be dredged as quickly as possible. Slow draining out of water caused inundation in wards and roads, said a local.

Kyemon-578

Relief camps opened in Myanaung

MYANAUNG, 20 Sept— Due to rising water level of Ayeyawady River, local people from Ward 1 and 6 of Myanaung in Ayeyawady Region were evacuated to the relief camps on 18 September.

Officials inspected the condition of sluice gate at ward 5.

Township level authorities opened relief camp for 484 people from 121 households of flood areas in Hninzigyan Road of Ward 6. The relief camp was opened at the precinct of Shwebontha Pagoda. The local authorities inspected flooded areas of No. 1 Ward and sluice gate at Ward 5.

Myanaung Township is located at 72 feet of danger level from Ayeyawady River. At present, water level of the river reached 69.85 feet. However, water can flow into the urban area due to embankment bars the inflow of flooded water.

The present water level reaches normal flooding level in the town yearly, said an official.—*Kyemon-Nay Win Zaw (Myanaung)*

Carts prohibited for rolling on asphalt/concrete roads

DAIKU, 20 Sept— People were so pleased for opening of Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay Expressway in March 2009.

Okshitkon Road paved with both concrete and asphalt from mile post No. 72 of the expressway to Dayemee Junction of DaikU in Bago Region has been used since 2012.

Local people from Okshitkon, TargwaShanywa, Chinkantlant, Pyaungthaygon, Phayagyigon, Byetgyi, Sanmyaung, Dohtan, Taungpoh Koelon, U Myaukkyigon, Letpanthongwa, Shweindon, Layeinsu, Anyasu villages and Dayemee Ward 8 along both sides of the road are enyoying better transport facilities.

However, some people drive their bullock carts on the road showing a total disregard for discipline. So, the local people wish the authorities to prohibit their inappropriate activities.

Kyemon-Saya Kha (DaikU)

National Sports

AFF Women's Championship's group matches finish

The ASEAN Women's Championship 2013 concluded its group B matches at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) and Aung San Stadium on 18 September evening.

At the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna), Japan U-23 beat Myanmar 3-0. The host Myanmar tried hard to secure the first position of the group. The team deployed its first line-up players with Captain San San Maw, Khin Marlar Tun, Yi Yi Oo, Than Than Htwe, etc. In the first half, Myanmar could put pressure on Japan team but missed the chance to score goals.

Thus, Myanmar suffered from pressure of the Japan team in the second half. At 54th minute, Miyuki scored an opening goal. Although Myanmar poured out its efforts to register the equalizer, Japan team scored two more goals nearing final whistle: the second goal by Yushiyura at 83rd minute and the third by Miyuki at 85th minute.

At Aung San Stadium, the Philippine trounced Laos with a 7-2 result.

As the group B matches have finished, Japan U-23 stood first in the group with 12 points in four wins and host Myanmar second with nine points in three wins and one loss.

Kyemon-Shine Htet Zaw

APEC finance ministers kick off 2-day meeting in Bali

Finance ministers of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum pose for photographs wearing traditional Balinese attire at a beach resort on Bali on 19 Sept, 2013. Indonesia is chairing the year's APEC meetings and will hold a summit in October.—KYODO NEWS

NUSA DUA, (Indonesia), 20 Sept — Finance ministers from the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum began a two-day meeting in Bali on Thursday to discuss ways to boost growth and strengthen regional resiliency amid current turbulence being experienced by emerging economies.

The APEC financial chiefs are expected to emphasize the urgency to continue structural reform in all economies, particularly the emerging ones, amid concerns that the recent instability in emerging financial markets may more broadly impact the global economy. Earlier Thursday, stocks in emerging markets, which had been affected by worries of the US Federal Reserve winding down its stimulus program, soared soon after the Fed surprisingly decided to leave the plan intact.

India and Indonesia have been hardest hit by the fears, with capital outflows and falls in exchange rates and stock prices.

The ministerial gathering takes place less than two weeks after the leaders of the Group of 20 leading economies, at their summit in St Petersburg, reiterated the need for industrialized countries to flexibly promote fiscal consolidation to prevent a recurrence of shocks such as the eurozone sovereign debt crisis.

The APEC ministers are also expected to discuss trade finance as a means to facilitate trade activities in the region and the impact of global crises on trade finance. At the conclusion of their talks in Nusa Dua, a beach resort on Bali Island, the finance ministers will witness the signing of statement of intent among Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and South Korea, which are involved in the Asia Region Funds Passport scheme.

Initiated by Australia, the scheme will provide a multilaterally agreed framework allowing the cross-border issuing of funds across participating economies in Asia.

APEC sources said Japan and Taipei may also sign up, but officials of the two economies have not confirmed it. APEC groups Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taipei, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

Kyodo News

Car bombings death toll rises to nearly 65 in southeastern Yemen

ADEN, (Yemen), 20 Sept—The death toll from three suicide car bombings that ripped through a key military site and police center in Yemen's southeastern Province of Shabwa has risen to at least 65, a local security official said.

"At least 65 army and security soldiers died and 38 others were wounded in three simultaneous car bombing attacks that targeted the police station headquarters and army-held sites in Azzan area in Shabwa," the provincial security official told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

A police officer said that the deadliest of Friday's attacks took place when an al-Qaeda suicide bomber drove his explosive- laden car into the army held-site in Azzan near an oil pipeline.

Medical officials in a nearby military hospital confirmed to *Xinhua* the casualty figures.

An earlier toll on Friday said that three explosives-rigged cars went off at a military site in Azzan, killing at least 40 army soldiers and wounding dozens of others at the scene, a local government source said.

An army source said that the security forces backed by heavy armored vehicles were deployed in large numbers around the scene.

A witness told *Xinhua* anonymously saying that "we saw a number of charred bodies near the police center and the bodies of five high-ranking army officers brought out of it."

"The bombs struck an army base and huge clouds of black smoke billowed into the air," the witness added.

The toll of Friday suicide attacks could rise as ambulances and civilian cars evacuated the army victims to different hospitals and medical centers in the city, according to the local sources.

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) has claimed responsibility for these bombing attacks.

A spokesman of the AQAP told *Xinhua* by phone early Friday that they launched wide-scale attacks using two car bombs and ground attacks on an army barracks and the police station, which killed more than 50 soldiers.

Xinhua

Abe urges TEPCO to scrap 2 Fukushima reactors that avoided meltdowns

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (C) speaks to reporters at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in Fukushima Prefecture on 19 Sept, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

OKUMA, 20 Sept — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Thursday urged Tokyo Electric Power Co to scrap two reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant that avoided meltdowns during the 2011 accident, saying that the utility should focus more on the plant's cleanup efforts.

Of the plant's six reactors, the utility is moving ahead to decommission the Nos 1 to 4 units that suffered meltdowns or hydrogen explosions in the early days of the crisis. But it has not made clear what it will do with the Nos 5 and 6 reactors that achieved a stable condition called a cold shutdown.

According to Abe who visited the plant on Thursday, TEPCO President Naomi Hirose said he will decide on the fate of the two reactors by the end of this year, while also vowing to drastically lower by March 2015 the level of radioactivity in contaminated water accumulating at the complex.

Abe inspected the plant in northeastern Japan to demonstrate the government's commitment to addressing the buildup of toxic water, after he assured the international community earlier this month, while in Buenos Aires to push Tokyo's bid to host the 2020 Summer Olympics, that the situation "is under control."

After touring the site for the second time since taking office in December, Abe told reporters, "I requested...that a decision should be reached on the scrapping of the Nos. 5 and 6 reactors so that TEPCO focuses on accident response matters."

Kyodo News

Russia's Putin says could seek re-election in 2018

Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during a meeting with 'Valdai' International Discussion Club members in the town of Valdai on 19 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

VALDAI, (Russia), 20 Sept — President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday he may seek re-election in 2018 and charted a conservative course drawn from Orthodox Christian values, saying the West was not an example for Russia.

Asked at a conference whether he might seek a new term as president when his six-year mandate expires in 2018, Putin said: "I do not rule it out." Asked by *Reuters* for clarification, he later said: "It's only 2013 today, there are another five years ahead of us."

Putin, 60, has been in power since 2000 and a fourth term would keep him there until 2024 — longer than Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev's 18-year stay but still short of Josef Stalin's three-decade dictatorship.

Putin made his comments to an audience of Russia experts that also included a number of opposition leaders who took part in protests against his rule last year, demonstrations that have dwindled since the president took a firm line against dissent. The opposition leaders hailed their inclusion as a sign that Putin may be open to dialogue after months of repressive tactics, but said it may also reflect divisions between relative liberals and hawks in Putin's inner circle.

"The Kremlin has different towers," said protest leader Gennady Gudkov.

"There are towers aimed at ... group repression and there are those that understand that this is a dead-end path."

Reuters

Ukraine to join NATO's counter-piracy mission

KIEV, 20 Sept — The Ukrainian Parliament on Thursday approved the bill proposed by President Viktor Yanukovych to allow the country's peacekeeping troops to join a NATO counter-piracy mission.

The parliament's press service said that the bill was supported by 331 lawmakers, much more than the 226 votes required.

Under the bill, Ukrainian flagman frigate Hetman Sahaydachny with a Ka-27 helicopter on board will assist NATO troops during the mission Ocean Shield in waters near the Gulf of Aden and the Horn of Africa.

Ukrainian peacekeepers will join NATO troops at the end of the current year for a 90-day mission and Kiev will bear all costs arising from its participation in the operation.

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Scientists discover new legless lizard species in California

San Francisco, 20 Sept—California scientists have discovered four species of legless lizards hidden in unlikely habitats among central valley oil derricks, sand dunes at the end of a Los Angeles airport runway and other arid and desolate spaces.

The findings, announced in a publication of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University this week, brings the number of known snake-like lizard species living in California up from one to five.

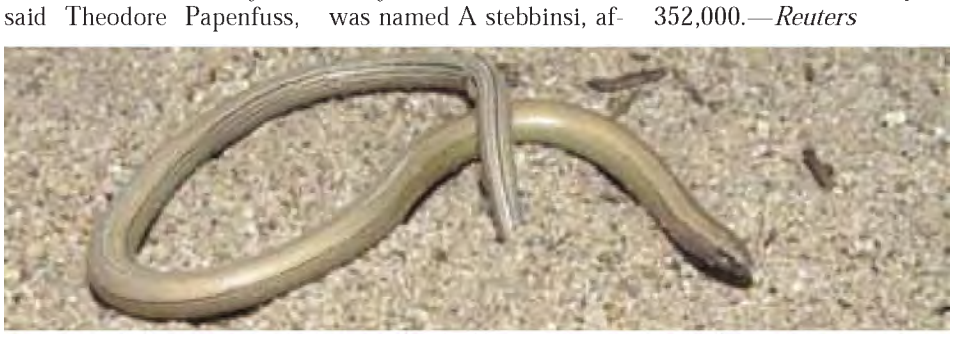
"The main thing this is showing is that right here in California ... there is actual natural animal diversity that we don't know about yet," said Theodore Papenfuss, a reptile and amphibian expert with the University of California at Berkeley's Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

Papenfuss and geologist James Parham from the California State University Fullerton led the research, spending 15 years searching the state for the slithering creatures, their quest fueled by a hunch that at least one relative of California's legless lizard species, the Anniella pulchra, existed nearby.

One of the research team's discoveries was in the protected El Segundo Dunes that butt up against the end of a Los Angeles International Airport runway. The yellow-bellied creature was named A stebbinsi, after herpetologist Robert C Stebbins, who studied natural life in a local mountain range.

The three other newly identified species were found in the San Joaquin Valley, over 200 miles to the north, where they likely lived for millions of years, Papenfuss and Parham's research showed.

The silver-bellied A. alexanderae was found in the oilfields near the city of Taft, the A. campi, with a yellow underside, was found in three canyons at the outskirts of the Mojave Desert, and the purple-stomached A. grinnelli, was discovered in a handful of vacant lots in downtown Bakersfield, a city of 352,000.—*Reuters*



A Bakersfield Legless Lizard (Anniella grinnelli) is shown in this undated handout provided by the University of California, Berkeley on 19 Sept, 2013.—Reuters

This self-portrait of NASA's Mars Curiosity rover is shown in this NASA handout composite image released on 30 May, 2013. Reuters

NASA Mars rover finds no sign of methane, telltale sign of life

Cape Canaveral, 20 Sept— NASA's Mars rover *Curiosity* has come up empty-handed in its search for methane in the planet's atmosphere, a gas that on Earth is a strong indicator of life, officials said on Thursday.

The rover landed on Mars in August 2012 to determine whether the planet most like Earth in the solar system has or ever had the chemistry and conditions to support microbial life.

Over the past decade, scientists using Mars orbiters and telescopes on Earth have reported plumes of methane in the Martian atmosphere.

The gas breaks down in sunlight, so its presence on Mars indicated that either biological activity or a recent geologic event was responsible for its release.

The gas, which lasts about 300 years in Earth's atmosphere, could be expected to stick around for 200 years on Mars. But Curiosity's findings, compiled over eight months, indicate that the methane may have virtually disappeared in a matter of years. Based on the previous observations, scientists had expected to find about six times more methane in the atmosphere than the negligible amounts *Curiosity* found. "There's a discrepancy," lead research Christopher Webster, with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, told Reuters. "Suddenly the whole interpretation of earlier observations is stuck."

Webster said it is possible but unlikely that the lack of methane is particular to Curiosity's landing site, a giant basin near the planet's equator. Once methane is released from the surface, scientists believe it would spread fairly quickly through the planet's thin atmosphere.—*Reuters*

Hackers offered cash, booze to crack iPhone fingerprint security

Boston, 20 Sept—Hackers are gearing up for Friday's iPhone 5S release with a contest to crack the device's first-ever fingerprint scanner, a high-tech feature that Apple Inc says makes users' data more secure.

A micro venture capital firm joined a group of security researchers to offer more than $13,000 in cash along with bottles of booze, Bitcoin currency, books and other goodies to the first hacker who breaks the device in a contest promoted on the website istouchidhackedyet.com/.

Arturas Rosenbacher, founding partner of Chicago's IO Capital, which donated $10,000 to the hacking competition, said that the effort will bring together some of the hacking community's smartest minds to help Apple identify bugs that it may have missed.

"This is to fix a problem before it becomes a problem," he said. "This will make things safer."

Meanwhile, Forbes.com reported that a 36-year-old soldier living in Spain's Canary Islands, Jose Rodriguez, has already uncovered a security vulnerability affecting iOS 7, which Apple began distributing to existing iPhone and iPad customers on Wednesday.

The publication said that it is possible to bypass the lock screen of those devices in seconds to access photos, email, Twitter and other applications. It included a video demonstration on its website and advice on how users could thwart the bypass technique: onforb.es/16IU6Y3

Apple spokeswoman Trudy Muller told *Reuters* that the company was preparing a fix that it would deliver as an update to iOS 7 when it was ready. "Apple takes user security very seriously," she said.

Among those getting ready for the hacking contest is David Kennedy, a former US Marine Corps cyber-intelligence analyst who did two tours in Iraq and now runs his own consulting firm, TrustedSec LLC.

"I am just waiting to get my hands on it to figure out how to get around it first," the founder of the DerbyCon hacking conference told the *Thomson Reuters* Global Markets Forum this week. "I'll be up all night trying."

Security experts worry about the implications of using the module to grant access to sensitive data on the phone and potentially enabling mobile purchases.

The fingerprint scanner on the top-of-the-line iPhone lets users unlock their devices or make purchases on iTunes by simply pressing their finger on the home button. It has been hailed as a major step in popularizing the use of biometrics in personal electronics.

Security engineer Charlie Miller, known in hacking circles for uncovering major bugs in the iPhone as well as circumventing security in Apple's App Store, said it could take fewer than two weeks for Kennedy or some other smart hacker to get around the new lock.

Reuters

A journalist tests the new iPhone 5S Touch ID fingerprint recognition feature at Apple Inc's announcement event in Beijing in this on 11 Sept, 2013 file photo.—Reuters

Twitter in talks to add banks to IPO, set fees

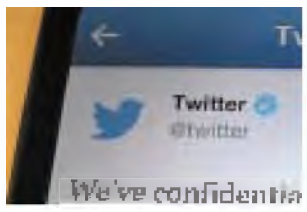
New York, 20 Sept—Twitter is in talks to add additional banks to its underwriting syndicate for its upcoming initial public offering and in the process of finalizing the fee structure, according to three people familiar with the matter.

Typically, underwriters receive around 7 percent of overall IPO proceeds, but larger offerings can command a lower fee. Underwriters were willing to split a fee pool of just 1.1 percent for Facebook Inc's $16 billion IPO because of the deal size, as well as the prestige of being associated with a high-profile deal.

It was not clear what percentage of the potential IPO proceeds Twitter has proposed to pay underwriters.

Twitter Chief Financial Officer Mike Gupta is leading the microblogging platform's IPO and is in touch with the investment banks about their roles, one of the people said.

The people asked not to be named because they were not authorized to speak with the media. The company declined to comment.



A tweet from Twitter Inc announcing its initial public offering is shown in this photo illustration in Toronto, on 12 Sept, 2013.—Reuters

Twitter's valuation is estimated at around $15 billion by analysts. Assuming that it sells around 10 percent of its shares and an overall fee would come to 4 to 5 percent, underwriters could stand to split a fee pool of around $60 million to $70 million.

Facebook underwriters who worked on the social network's $16 billion IPO, meanwhile, divided up fees of $176 million.

Twitter is likely to raise over $1 billion in its IPO, a separate source said. The IPO will likely come before Thanksgiving, the source said.

Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Gene sequences of deadly Saudi virus show complex transmission

Doctor testing for Mers-CoV in Germany city of Bon.—REUTERS

LONDON, 20 Sept—Genetic analysis of samples of the deadly MERS virus that has killed 58 people in the Middle East and Europe shows the disease has jumped from animals to humans several times, scientists said on Friday.

At least 132 people have been infected with the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) coronavirus since it emerged about a year ago, and it has killed 58 of them, according to the World Health Organization.

While cases have been reported in people across the Middle East and in France, Germany, Italy, Tunisia and Britain, the vast majority of infections and deaths are in Saudi Arabia.

After conducting genome sequencing studies of the virus—from the same coronavirus family as the one that caused SARS a decade ago, British and Saudi researchers found several infection transmission chains and said they painted a picture of what they called lively "pathogenic chatter" between species.

"Our findings suggest that different lineages of the virus have originated from the virus jumping across to humans from an animal source a number of times," said Paul Kellam, a professor of viral pathogenesis at Britain's Sanger Institute and University College London (UCL), who led the research.

His team sequenced and analyzed the genomes of MERS-CoV samples taken from 21 patients from across Saudi Arabia. They then combined the geographic locations of the patients with the time they were infected and the amount of genetic differences seen between the virus genomes.

This led them to what they called a "higher resolution picture of how the virus has spread and how its genome has changed over time".

While the findings, published in the Lancet medical journal, cannot help scientists predict how likely MERS is to become more easily transmissible in people — and how likely to cause a human pandemic - they should help health experts develop more effective infection control measures to limit its spread.

The virus, a cousin of the coronavirus that caused a deadly outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in 2002 and 2003, can cause coughing, fever and pneumonia.

As yet no firm evidence has been found on the so-called "animal reservoir" of MERS, although several recent studies have linked it to bats and to dromedary camels.

Various groups of scientists are conducting studies of other potential reservoir species, including goats, sheep, dogs, cats, rodents and others.

Ziad Memish, Saudi's deputy minister of health and one of the researchers on this latest study, said pinning down the animal source or sources would be critical in allowing health authorities to get on top of the outbreak.

Researchers and health officials say they take some solace from evidence showing that while the virus can spread from person-to-person, it does not do so easily and doesn't appear to be gaining a firm foothold as a human disease.—*Reuters*

Microsoft CEO Ballmer bids emotional farewell to Wall Street

Microsoft Chief Executive Steve Ballmer speaks during a Nokia news conference in Espoo on 3 Sept, 2013.
REUTERS

ESPOO, (Finland), 20 Sept—Microsoft Corp Chief Executive Steve Ballmer has made an impassioned plea to investors to support his vision of the world's largest software company as a unified devices and services powerhouse in his swan song before Wall Street.

Ballmer, who in August said he planned to step down within 12 months, told investors and analysts in an annual meeting on Thursday that Microsoft had a bright future, despite missteps under his 13-year tenure.

"We have the tools. There's economic upside here. In the long run, we are almost uniquely poised to seize the opportunity," he said, in a typically high-volume presentation. "Today I'm speaking as an investor. You all own Microsoft stock, cheer for it, for God's sake."

Ballmer, who took over from co-founder Bill Gates as CEO in 2000, did acknowledge that under his leadership the company was too focused on Windows to realize that Apple Inc's iPhone was revolutionizing computing.

"If there's one thing I regret, there was a period in the early 2000s when we were so focused on what we had to do around Windows that we weren't able to redeploy talent to the new device form factor called the phone," said Ballmer.

After losing ground to Apple and Google Inc in mobile and internet arenas for the last 10 years, Ballmer in July launched an ambitious reorganization focused on "devices and services." He announced his retirement only six weeks later amid pressure from some discontented shareholders.

Ballmer said the top layers of that reorganization had taken effect, but the new functionally organized groups were at different stages in working out exactly how they will be structured. The company had no comments on the progress of the board's search for a new CEO.

"It really was a fundamental shift from running a set of separate business units where we tried to make connection points to running a company that is essentially one integrated entity," said Ballmer, attempting to explain his vision.

During four hours of presentations, which were interrupted for about half an hour due to a power cut, Microsoft executives expanded on Ballmer's idea, explaining how the company would continue its push into making its own hardware — following the deal to buy phone maker Nokia — and would stress services rather than products, while keeping individual consumers in mind rather than chiefly concentrating on businesses.

Qi Lu, the executive in charge of applications and services, hinted that Microsoft's popular Office suite of applications would at some point be available on the iPad, a market that one analyst put at $2.5 billion a year. —*Reuters*

Univision in talks with banks about 2014 IPO

NEW YORK, 20 Sept—US Spanish-language broadcaster Univision Communications Inc has in recent weeks held discussions with banks about an initial public offering, according to three people familiar with the matter, as strong stock markets encourage private equity owners to seek exits for their portfolio companies.

New York-based Univision was taken private by a group of buyout firms including Madison Dearborn Partners, Providence Equity Partners, TPG Capital and Thomas H. Lee Partners for $12.3 billion in March 2007.

The company is leaning toward an IPO, which may come in the second half of 2014, as the board continues to evaluate the company's strategic direction, one of the people said, adding that Univision has not yet made a formal decision to proceed with the offering.

All the people asked not to be identified because the discussions are confidential. Univision, Madison Dearborn, TPG, Providence and THL declined to comment.

A surge in the equity markets this year has encouraged large private equity-backed companies to pursue IPOs. Hotel operator Hilton Worldwide, which was taken private by Blackstone Group LP for $26 billion in 2007, said earlier this month it intends to raise upwards of $1.25 billion from an initial public offering.—*Reuters*

A technician works in the "Acquisition Room", which receives televison feeds from around the world, during an event to mark the opening of the new Univision and Fusion television networks newsroom in Doral, Florida on 28 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

Apple's newest iPhone models go on sale in Japan

TOKYO, 20 Sept—Apple Inc's newest iPhone models went on sale Friday in Japan ahead of its debut in the United States later in the day, with Japan's largest mobile phone carrier NTT Docomo Inc launching the popular handset series for the first time.

A three-way battle to attract subscribers between NTT Docomo and its rivals Softbank Mobile Corp and KDDI Corp, which already offer iPhones, is likely to further intensify in Japan, where the iPhone is proving extremely popular.

The two new models are the premier iPhone 5s, which features a fingerprint security sensor that can unlock the handset, and the lower-priced iPhone 5c.—*Kyodo News*

NTT Docomo Inc President Kaoru Kato (L) hands an iPhone to the first customer in Tokyo on 20 Sept, 2013.
KYODO NEWS

WORLD

Former British PM Blair's daughter held at gunpoint in London

LONDON, 20 Sept — The daughter of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair was held up at gunpoint during an attempted robbery as she was out walking in London, local media said on Thursday.

Kathryn Blair, 25, a barrister, was targeted as she walked down a central London street with her boyfriend and a group of friends, the BBC reported.

Police confirmed an incident involving two male suspects with a gun took place in central London on Monday evening.

"The victims were a man and a woman; the suspects were two males," they said in a statement, adding the incident was being linked with another attempted robbery nearby 30 minutes earlier. "On both occasions a firearm was seen but not used — no shots were fired. None of the victims were injured and nothing was stolen during the incidents," police said. It said investigations were under way but no arrests had been made. A spokesman for Tony Blair's office could not be reached for comment. Blair, 60, was in office from 1997-2007 and involved Britain in the deeply unpopular invasion of Iraq, something which ultimately helped end his political career. Based in London, he now presides over a network of global consultancy businesses and charities.—*Reuters*

Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his daughter Kathryn cheer British track cyclists at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, on 19 Aug, 2008.—REUTERS

Syria war, refugees to cost Lebanon $7.5 billion

BEIRUT, 20 Sept — Syria's conflict will cost Lebanon $7.5 billion in cumulative economic losses by the end of next year, the World Bank has said in a report prepared for an aid meeting at the United Nations.

A summary of the report, seen by *Reuters* after the World Bank briefed diplomats in Beirut, provides the most detailed assessment yet of the strain Syria's conflict has placed on its small Mediterranean neighbour.

It estimates that the war and resulting wave of refugees into Lebanon will cut real GDP growth by 2.85 percent a year between 2012 to 2014, double unemployment to above 20 percent and widen the deeply indebted nation's deficit by $2.6 billion.

US Ambassador to Lebanon David Hale said on Thursday the bank's assessment underscored just how serious a challenge Lebanon faces, and the importance of dealing with it "not only for humanitarian reasons, but for Lebanon's very stability".

The Syrian war has spilled into Lebanon with car bombs in Beirut and Tripoli, street fighting in major cities and rocket fire in the Bekaa Valley. Political paralysis has exacerbated the instability which has hit tourism, trade and investment.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is due to convene an international support group for Lebanon at the United Nations annual summit meeting next week to provide humanitarian aid and development assistance and strengthen Lebanon's armed forces.

Hale, speaking after meeting Lebanon's Social Affairs Minister Wael Abu Faour, said the crisis put a responsibility on world powers to "help deal with a situation which we all know is well beyond Lebanon's capacity to deal with alone".

Reuters

Syrian refugee children who arrived with their families from Damascus, eat fruits under a tent at the Majdal Anjar refugee camp in Bekaa Valley near the Syrian border in eastern Lebanon, on 9 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Russia, Japan should prioritize economic cooperation

Moscow, 20 Sept— Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said Thursday that Russia and Japan should place priority on economic cooperation even before finding a solution to their long-standing territorial dispute that has prevented the two countries from signing a post-World War II peace treaty.

"It would be detrimental to insist on avoiding cooperation before a resolution (of the issue)," Medvedev said in response to a question by *Kyodo News* President Masaki Fukuyama, who met with the Russian prime minister with other leaders of news agencies in the Asia-Pacific region.

Medvedev's remarks followed the resumption last month of talks over Russian-held islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido. The deputy-foreign-minister level talks were agreed upon in April between Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

With the remarks, Medvedev reiterated Russia's basic stance on the territorial issue that expansion of economic ties is the basis for reaching a solution on the issue.

Medvedev hailed the two countries' joint development of natural gas off Sakhalin, saying the project has led to the first natural gas production in Russia. He hoped for further expansion of bilateral cooperation in energy fields.

The prime minister, while noting increases in bilateral trade, stressed that the two countries could cooperate more closely in economic areas.

Russia and Japan "should avoid politicization of issues of economic cooperation and expand cultural and human exchanges," Medvedev said, contending that the two countries would then be able to find a path to solving political issues.—*Kyodo News*

Security forces storm pro-Mursi town near Cairo to reassert control

Residents take cover during clashes between security forces and gunmen in Kerdasa, a town 14 km (9 miles) from Cairo on 19 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

KERDASA, (Egypt) 20 Sept — Egyptian security forces and militants exchanged fire as police stormed a town near Cairo dominated by Islamist supporters of ousted President Mohamed Mursi on Thursday, arresting dozens in an operation to reimpose state control. A police general was shot dead and at least nine policemen and soldiers were wounded by a hand grenade in the clashes in Kerdasa, on the capital's western outskirts.

Dozens of police and army vehicles entered the town at daybreak in the second such raid this week to reassert government control over areas where Islamist sympathies run deep and hostility to the authorities has grown since the army overthrew and imprisoned Mursi on 3 July.

There had been little or no sign of the security forces in Kerdasa since 11 police officers were killed in an attack on its main police station on 14 August.

The building was hit with rocket-propelled grenades and burned down after police had stormed pro-Mursi protest camps in Cairo that day and killed hundreds of his supporters.

"The security forces will not retreat until Kerdasa is cleansed of all terrorist and criminal nests," Interior Ministry spokesman Hany Abdel Latif said.—*Reuters*

Putin sees hope in Syria deal; Kerry says it's vital that UN acts

MOSCOW/WASHINGTON, 20 Sept — Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday he could not be 100 percent certain a US-Russian plan for the destruction of Syrian chemical arms would be carried out successfully, but he saw reason to hope it would.

US Secretary of State John Kerry said it was essential the deal reached last Saturday be enforced and that the UN Security Council be willing to act on it next week, when the UN General Assembly holds its annual meeting in New York.

"The Security Council must be prepared to act next week," Kerry told reporters in Washington. "It is vital for the international community to stand up and speak out in the strongest possible terms about the importance of enforceable action to rid the world of Syria's chemical weapons."

French President Francois Hollande suggested on Thursday for the first time that Paris could arm Syrian rebels in a 'controlled framework," since they were now caught, he said, between the Syrian government on one side and radical Islamists on the other.

Reuters

Smoke rises from behind a building in Jobar, Damascus on 18 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Farming rights certificates presented in Myinmu Tsp

MYINMU, 20 Sept— Farming rights certificates were presented to farmers in Yonkar village-tract in Myinmu Township in Sagaing Region on 16 September.

The registration fee of K 925,500 was also presented for 1851 certificates in a ceremony held at Shwe Pyi Thit Hall in Myinmu on 16 September.

Sagaing Region Hluttaw Representative U Thaung Myint presented 1851 certificates to the chairman of Yonkar village-tract farmland management committee.

The chairman presented K 925,500 to the Township Planning Committee Chairman U Thein Zaw.

The chairman of Myinmu Township management committee said the efforts of the Yonkar village committee to collect the registration ahead of schedule were recognized.

He urged the committee to continue to exert their hard works.

The Secretary of Myinmu Township Farmland Management Committee said a total of 26036 certificates, 30 percent of the entire farmlands that could apply for farming rights certificates, have been issued in Myinmu Township.

MMAL- Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)

Notices of eviction for squatters issued

YANGON, 20 Sept— Township Public Works and Development Affairs Committee in Hlaingthaya Township in Yangon Region issued notices of eviction for encroached occupants by Yangon-Pathein road once on 5 September and once on 17 September.

The notices were distributed in the second time by the combined team of the Township Development Affairs Committee and departmental personnel on 17 September morning.

Some 300 houses by the road have got the notices since 5 September.

The notices issued for the second time by the Development Affairs Committee and Assistant Engineer Office (Civil) under Public Works cover encroached buildings, roadside shops and other buildings.

MMAL-164

Toungoo University to get convocation hall

TOUNGOO, 20 Sept—A new convocation hall will be built in the Toungoo University five miles west of Toungoo in Bago Region.

The estimated cost of construction is K 5000 million and the facility will be built on 258.85 acres of land. Earthworks have started at the chosen site for construction.

"The convocation will be built between two three-storey buildings. A new gymnasium will be built as well," Pro-rector of Toungoo University Dr Daw San San Mar said.

A total of 9339 students are attending at the university currently and it has eight buildings and three theatres.

MMAL-Thura (Toungoo)

Natural Disaster

Dokhtawady riverbank eroded in recent flood

SINGAING, 20 Sept— Rising Dokhtawady River eroded the river bank in Kan Let village in Singaing Township in Mandalay Region, posing threat to riverside houses.

A house has been evacuated while other 17 houses are in danger.

The residents are in negotiations with authorities for evacuation as the erosion is likely to escalate.

The situations would be reported to the region government as well, according to region Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi.

Singaing Township is the worst affected area in the recent flood caused by several days of rainfall that caused the river water level to surpass its danger water level.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Model plot of monsoon paddy yields 192 baskets per acre

TAUNGDWINGYI, 20 Sept—Local farmers harvested Belgium hybrid monsoon paddy strain of farmer U Tin Shwe in Pyinma Village in Chaungnet village-tract in Taungdwingyi Township on 14 September.

The paddy plantation plot produced 192 baskets per acre in wet status and 172 baskets in dry status.

The local farmers viewing the harvest of hybrid paddy plantation wish to grow the similar paddy strains on their farmlands.

MMAL-Maung Thuta

Tens of hundreds of flood victims in NyaungU Tsp evacuated

NYAUNGU, 20 Sept— Tens of hundreds of flood victims in NyaungU Township were evacuated on time on 15-17 September.

A total of 1100 people from 247 households of Selan village were rescued on 15 September.

A total of 2405 people from 497 households in other riverside areas and other areas were evacuated on 16-17 September.

Under the supervision of the District Deputy Commissioner and the Township Administrator, a total of 82 bags of rice and 100 makeshift tents were distributed to the flood victims.—*MMAL-Ye Thura Aung (NyaungU)*

Aid provided to flood victims in Singaing Township

SINGAING, 20 Sept— Authorities and wellwishers are providing assistance to flood victims in villages in Singaing Township due to the rise of water level of Dokhtawady River.

They provided clothes, bags of rice and purified drinking water to the flood victims on 16 September.

No 3 Tactical Operations Commander Col Than Oo of Central Command, Col Khin Maung Oo of Kyaukse Station donated three bales of clothes, 1072 packets of rice, 1072 bottle of purified drinking water for 315 flood victims, two bales of clothes and 593 packets of rice and 593 bottles of purified drinking water, Commander of Singaing Township Police Force Police Major Hla Myint and U Khin Maung Oo and U Myint Swe of Rice Millers Association, 20 bags of rice for 450 flood victim households, U Kyaw Kyaw Soe and family of Singaing Township 500 packets of rice for flood victims of Paleik Police Station area.

Township Police Force members and Township Fire Brigade members provided assistance.

MMAL-Township IPRD

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 21 September, 2013

Humanity, Equality and Diversity

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

Despite all the peace efforts, violence and unrest still persist in many parts of the world. Though the last decade saw less aggression or violence, the growing threat of terrorism, extremism, sectarian violence and civil war sounds alarming bells to the global population with tensions running high in certain places. Following this, arms race seems to be rising again while some places are dissolving into chaos.

So, there arises a question—what is the key to secure peace? The answer is simple. Humanity. There would be no more war if only we saw each other as humans. Except for the colours, we all are the same made of flesh and blood. Blood is just red and neither white nor black. But in real world, the global citizenship is just a concept which has never been embraced. We still think we are different.

Tolerance and mutual respect are vital for building peaceful societies. Every man is born equal and no one should be discriminated on the grounds of his colour, race, and religion. Diversity is surely an asset and not a threat. No peace would reign as long as we refuse to embrace diversity. It takes all sorts to make and not to kill the world.

We believe that the power of diplomacy, dialogues and engagement would be able to conquer the violence and silence the guns across the world. Lasting peace cannot be achieved through the barrel of a gun; it can only be attained through understanding. The global ceasefire is a thousand miles journey, but to reach this goal, all we need to do it to accept that we belong to each other.

The close interrelationship between peace and prosperity is obvious and undeniable. The future of the world largely depends on the present situation of younger generation. How we let them grow up would shape the future of the world. Shall we let them grow up in peace or with daily trauma and pain of war atrocities? Shall we let them see bright side or dark side of the life? It is up to you.

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other," said Mother Teresa.

Water level of Ayeyawady River may remain above its danger level

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Sept—The water level of Ayeyawady River at Zalun has reached its danger level starting from 16-9-2013, 5:30 pm. According to the 12:30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level has exceeded by 63 cm (about 2 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next three days, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

ARTICLE

Tawthalin holds Royal Regatta Festival

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

Tawthalin, the 6th month of Myanmar lunar calendar roughly corresponds to September. Though the monsoon has not passed out yet, storm begins to subside, if the climate remains normal. All aquatic bodies in the country are still brimful with rain water. The gentle breeze creates only dainty ripples on the surface of water making the illusion of a mat spread out on it. Hence an old Myanmar saying "တော်သလင်းမြစ်တွင်းသင်ဖြူးခင်း" [In Tawthalin, the river is like a mat spread out]. Less rain clouds allow solar rays fall directly on earth, heating it up. Hence another Myanmar saying about this month "တော်သလင်းနေ ပုဇွန်သေ" [In Tawthalin sun, prawns die].

Kanya [Virgo] is this month's astrological name with its zodiacal symbol of a maiden. Yin Ma [chukrasia Tabularis] a kind of timber tree blooms profusely in spray on all its bunches wafting its soft pleasant fragrance in the breeze. This flower is designated as flower of the month.

Calm weather and brimful aquatic bodies favour festive activities on water. Besides, legends and history support their cultural background. All Myanmar indigenous kings [Mon, Bama, Rakhine and Shan] claimed their descendancy from the Solar race [Adicea Vamsa] so that they believed that they were entitled to perform the ploughing ceremony when the monsoon begins in June and to hold the festival of royal regatta and boat races in late September when the monsoon is about to receede. Sakka Deva, Thunder god in Brahmanical Pantheon holds his boat festival in the sacred River Mandakini in his celestial kingdom Tavatinsa. It was in imitation of Sakka Deva's boat festival that Myanmar kings held yearly royal regatta and boat races in the month of Tawthalin.

Among Bagan kings, Alaung Sithu [1112-1167 A.D.] was the most enthusiastic traveler who spent much of his time in water journeys both inland and abroad. Legend has it that his royal barge built of the wood which contained in it a philosopher's stone [a ball of mercury compound concocted by alchemists]. This stone gave the royal barge supernatural power of turning into water any place the king pointed at. From the port of Cosma [Pathein] the king started his sea voyages taking him to Malayu, the islands around Rakhine state and to the Indian Land of Bengal. Accounts of his maritime journeys read like ancient Greek Epic Odyssey. Like Ulysses, the hero of that Epic, Alaungsithu encountered many fantastic adventures. When he arrived the coast of Malayu, so says the legend, Sakka Deva appeared to present him a magic tree. The king made a boat out of that tree known as Sakka Deva Boat [later corrupted to Thakadan Boat]. Next, at one island, off which he anchored his barge, his men found a big nest built of elephant tusks, in which a monster reptile lived. The monster killed to eat elephants and built his nest with their tusks. As the monster reptile was away, his men broke up the nest, took all the tusks and sailed away. The monster reptile chased the royal barge. But being unable to catch up, it showed its head, tail and four legs stretched out to impress and frighten the king, and turned back. In memory of this encounter the king built a boat in the likeness of the monster reptile and name it E kin Boat, or Hlaw Ka Taw Gyi [The big Royal Boat with oars spread out like the legs of the monster reptile.]. These two boats Thakadan and E Kin or Hlaw Ka Taw Gyi played major role in the Royal Regatta Festival and boat races.

Myanmar traditional warfare had four armed forces namely, infantry, cavalry, elephantry and chariotry, that is theoretically in line with the warfare described in the Jataka stories. But in practice there was no chariotry in Myanmar military organization. Chariots or rather coaches were used only for ceremonial purpose. Instead of chariotry, archery and fleets of war boats were employed in fighting. In the late 14th or early 15th century A.D. archery was replaced by gunnery and artillery but war boats remained as an essential force throughout. Military campaigns were led by land and water and battles were fought on grounds as well as on water. Even when kings made royal progress for non-military purpose "Yey-ar" [ရေအား] "Kyi-ar" [ကြည်းအား] or water or land forces featured his strength.

Inwa kings defended their capital or attacked their enemies with army and navy. The location of Ratanapura [Inwa] at the confluence of five rivers – the Ayeyawady, the Samone, the Duthawaddy, the Zawgyi and the Panlaung provided a favourable location for holding Regatta and boat races in peace time. This is also true of Mon capital Hamsavadi on the bank of the Bago river. King Rajadarit [1385-1423 A.D.], Queen Shin Saw Pu [1453-1472 A.D.], King Dhammazedi [1472-1492 A.D.] and King Bannya Dala [1747-1757 A.D] kept strong fleets of water crafts for both peaceful and military purposes. King Bayint Naung [1551-1581 A.D.] enlarged his armed forces by building many war canoes and boats of various types and sizes equipped with modern weapons supplied by the Portuguese. They were employed in his unifying campaigns as well as in dispatching his envoys to foreign countries. With his magnificent fleet he went in state to the seaport town Pathein to welcome and receive the religious mission from Ceylon [Sri Lanka] bringing a replica of the sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha and other religious gifts for him. In 1553 A.D. he built a grand new palace called Kambawza Thadi, and in 1566 A.D. he founded a new capital "Hamsavadi'. On all such auspicious occasions boat races were held as part of public celebrations.

Command of the sea was a strategic necessity for the Rakhine kings if they were to hold their sway in the Bay of Bengal. So they built strong armadas which they stationed along their sea coast to ward off the invaders from the sea front and constructed strong stone fortresses to defend their capitals against the besiegers.

Kings Minbin [1531-1553 A.D.] and Min Yazagyi [1593-1612 A.D.] were founders of Rakhine navy which their successors made use of. With a fleet of 200 sea-going crafts as big as galleys King Minkhamaung [1612-1622 A.D.] broke the power of the Portuguese in his dominions. King Sandathudhamma [1652-1684 A.D.] repulsed the invading Moghuls. The period 1550-1666 was the peak of Rakhine power sustained by well-armed warships.

Myanmar counterpart of King Min Khamaung was King Anaukpet Lun [1605-1628 A.D.] of Nyaung Yan dynasty. In 1613 A.D. he marched from Inwa to Thanhlyin by land and water to break up the Portuguese strong holds under the command of the notorious Feringhee adventurer Philip de Brito. The king employed 120,000 men and 400 vessels of considerable strength.

Among the later kings, Alaung paya [1752-1760 A.D.], Sinbyushin [1763-1776 A.D.], Bodawpaya [1782-1819 A.D.] and Thayawaddy Min [1837-1846 A.D.] were noted for their naval strength which they used for fighting as well as for display.

We find many references to royal regatta and boatraces in Myanmar chronicles and literature. Music and songs were composed for such special occasions. One particular piece of literary work which graphically describes Myanmar traditional regatta is "Tayoke Than Yauk Mawgun [An epic poem recording the arrival of a Chinese Embassy from Beijing, composed by one court Poet Laureate Nawade II.

((To be continued))

MoU on geothermal power plants signed

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—A ceremony to sign MoU between the Ministry of Electric Power and Emerging Markets Energy Pte Ltd of Singapore on a feasibility study of geothermal power plants in Shan State and Taninthayi, Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Regions was held at the ministry here yesterday evening.

It was attended by Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe, the Union Attorney-General, deputy ministers, departmental heads, officials from Emerging Markets Energy Pte Ltd and guests.

The Union Minister said that Myanmar's power consumption has increased by 15 percent annually. The government is seeking every possible ways to fulfill country's increasing power demand. The downstream of Chindwin River in Sagaing and Magway Regions, Mount Popa and Singu Hill in Mandalay Region and hot springs near Maungmakan beach in Taninthayi Region have the best prospects for power generation through geothermal.

After that, Managing Director U Htein Lwin and President Mr Samuel D Kennedy signed the MoU in the presence of the Union Attorney-General, deputy ministers, departmental heads, officials from Emerging Markets Energy Pte Ltd and guests.—*MNA*

Resident reps of FAO, IRRI observe 10000-acre model mechanized farmland in Dagon Myothit

YANGON, 20 Sept—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing this morning met with FAO Resident Representative Ms. Bui Thi Lin, Resident Representative Ms. Dr Madona from International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the president of Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association and the vice-president of Myanmar Rice Federation at the FAO office, here, this morning. They discussed matters on seeds production in cooperation with FAO and IRRI, seed distribution for flooded Ayeyawady Region, seawater affected areas and drought-hit areas and establishment of IRRI branch in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Union minister and party visited the 10000-acre model mechanized farmland in Dagon Myothit where they observed thriving Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation and construction of a 500-ton modern rice mill.

The Union minister called for development of agricultural sector in order to export agricultural products to international markets to enable the farmers to enjoy higher income.

MNA

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing, FAO Resident Representative Ms. Bui Thi Lin, Resident Representative Ms. Dr Madona from IRRI seen at a reference room.—MNA

Malaysia to assist in Myanmar's financial sector

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein held a meeting with Mr. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia and party at the ministry, here, this morning.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on progress of monetary sector in Myanmar, investment opportunities, further cooperation programmes between the two countries, attending of Myanmar government staff at human resource development work proficiency courses including monetary sector development courses in Malaysia and Malaysia's assistance in necessary sectors for development of insurance industry and emergence of stock exchange in Myanmar.—*MNA*

ZNA, Dongfeng automobile introduced

YANGON, 20 Sept—ZNA (Zhengzhou Nissan Automobile) and Dongfeng vehicle were introduced at Junction Square in Kamayut Township this morning.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Director of ZNA Mr Ma Hon Tao, President for Asia & Oceania Mr Toshiharru Yoshimura of Sojitz Corporation and officials formally opened the ceremony.

Executive Director U Aung Win of Yaung Ni Oo Service Co Ltd donated K 2.5 million to Wetnachaung Social Care Unit in Hmawby Township through Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein.

MNA

Sport delegations from ASEAN countries arrive

YANGON, 20 Sept—A coordination meeting of sport team leaders from respective countries and registration of sports teams for XXVII SEA Games will be held at Thingaha Hotel, here, from 21 September to 23 September.

The delegations and sport teams leaders from ASEAN countries such as Singapore, Laos, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, the Philippines and Vietnam arrived at Yangon International Airport this morning to attend the meeting. They were welcomed at the airport by Yangon in-charge Director U Kyaw Hsan Oo of Sports and Physical Education Department.—*MNA*

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker leaves for PRC

Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa being seen off at the Airport.—MNA

YANGON, 20 Sept—Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa left here by air this afternoon to attend the ceremony to mark the International Day of Peace to be held in People's Republic of China and the China-South Asia Peace and Disarmament Forum.

The Deputy Speaker was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Amyotha Hluttaw Political, Economic and Legal Affairs Commission Secretary U Myint Thein, Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Tin Aung, Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission member U Aung Myint, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yang Houlan and officials.

The Deputy Speaker was accompanied by Deputy Director U Zaw Zaw Htike and Assistant Director U Tun Tun Lin.

MNA

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs receives Team Leader of UNDP

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint received a delegation led by Team Leader of UNDP Regional Administrative Programme Mr Toily Kurbanoy at his office, here, this afternoon.

Also present at the call together with the Deputy Minister were Chief of Staff (Police) Police Brig-Gen Win Khaung of Myanma Police Force, Deputy Director-General of General Administration Department U Tin Myint, Deputy Director-General of Bureau of Special Investigation U Myint Han and responsible persons.—*MNA*

Trade deficit for April-August reaches US$ 456.43 million

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—Myanmar's total export value—normal export value of US$ 728.30 million and border export value of US$ 200.63 million—has reached US$ 928.93 million in August 2013-2014 FY while its total import value has amounted to US$ 895.19 million—normal import value of US$ 806.50 million and border import value of US$ 88.59 million. Total trade surplus in August 2013-2014 FY amounted to US$ 33.84 million.

Total export value including US$ 2953.02 million of normal export value and US$ 1020.94 million of border export value of Myanmar hit US$ 3974.96 million in April-August of 2013-2014 FY while its total import value—normal import value of US$ 3923.17 million and border import value of US$ 508.22 million—has touched US$ 4431.39 million. According to Central Statistical Organization's report on monthly export and import, Myanmar's total trade deficit for April to August 2013-14 FY was US$ 456.43 million.

MNA

Human Resources Development

CCA teaching method discussed in Yamethin

YAMETHIN, 20 Sept—The child-centred approach teaching course was held at Natsin Basic Education Primary School No 164 in Model Theingon Village of Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region on 18 September.

Township Education Officer U Tin Ko Ko, Headmistress Daw Mie Mie Kyaw of Theingon Basic Education High School, Assistant Education Officer U Soe Than discussed practically teaching the sttudents through CCA, raising sports and EQ, music and arts.

Students from grade IV participated in the practical works of CCA with the use of xylophone and the teachers reviewed their works.

Kyemon-Hlaing Than Tint (Yamethin)

Child Protection

Child protection knowledge shared to parents

THATON, 20 Sept—Thaton Township Child Rights Committee of Mon State organized the talks on protection of children for parents, managed by Social Welfare Department and UNICEF at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Thaton on 18 September afternoon.

Retired professor Dr Daw Thet Htar Win of UNICEF urged Township Committee of Right of Child members, social organization members, administrators of 15 villages and five wards of the township, supportive committee members and parents give loving-kindness to the children and nurture them.

She explained the significant points for parents to looking after the children, and protection of children against violence over children, sexual harresment, ignorance, exploitation.

Kyemon-Thet Oo (Thaton)

Relief Supplies

Region WAO, MCWSC provide assistance to flood victims

Members of Mandalay Region WAO and MCWSC present relief supplies to flood victim.

SINGAING, 20 Sept—Patron of Mandalay Region Women's Affairs Or-ganization and Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Myat Ngwe together with Chair-person of Region WAO Daw Htay Htay Aung and Chairman of Kyaukse District WAO Daw Aye Aye Win, visited th relief camps in flooded villages of Singaing and TadaU townships on 18 September.

She donated relief supplies to the victims at the relief camp in Myaukkaing Village in Singaing Township.

She also presented donations to flood victims at relief camps in Paleik Village-tract, Inya Village, Ward 2 in TadaU Township, Zaygyo Village and Hanthawady Village.

The patron and party donated 10 packets of instant noodle, two packets of detergent powder, 10 eggs, one piece of bread, one packet of cracker, six bottles of purified drinking water, one packet of pickled tea, two sachets of rehydrated salt, two roles of tissue and other materials to each flood households from 658 households from Singaing Township and 224 households in TadaU Township.

Kyemon-Tun Tun Naing

Rising pass rate in matriculation examination instructed

PYAPON, 20 Sept—A ceremony to instruct the teachers and education officials to rise pass rate in matriculation examination in 2014 was held at the hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Pyapon of Ayeyawady Region on 18 September.

Region Minister for Social Affairs Daw Khin Saw Mu made a speech.

Region Education Director U Kyi Aung explained pass rate of matriculation in previous year.

Pyapon stood 24th in the pass rate of the region's 26 townships.

The ceremony was attended by the deputy commissioner of Pyapon District General Administration Department, the deputy township administrator, the district education officer, the township education officer, the headmistress of No 1 Basic Education High School and guests.—*Kyemon-540*

Plan to build 88 basic education schools in Mon State

MAWLAMYINE, 20 Sept—Permission has been sought from the Ministry of Education to build 88 basic education schools in 2013-2014 fiscal year in Mon State.

A coordination meeting on invitation to tender for construction of the schools was held at the hall of Mon State Government at 2 pm on 17 September.

It was also attended by Mon State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Hla Oo, State Minister for Development Affairs Dr Toe Toe Aung and tender supervisory committee members.

A total of 92 companies submitted tenders to the committee that will adopt the tender winning company.

Over K 3500 million was alloted to be spent on construction of 17 schools in Thaton Township, 11 in Paung Township, 13 in Kyaikmaraw Township, 16 in Bilin Township, 10 each in Thanbyuzayat and Ye townships and 11 in Chaungzon Township.

Kyemon-694

Child protection course conducted in Tahley

TACHILEK, 20 Sept—Kengtung Township Social Welfare Department and World Vision Myanmar (Tachilek) jointly conducted the child protection course at Basic Education Primary School in Thiri Village of Tahley Sub-Township in Tachilek District of Shan State (East) on 15 September.

Additional Head of State Social Welfare Department (Kengtung) Daw Khin Khin Myint made a speech.

Zone Manager U Saree Lo of World Vision Myanmar (Tachilek) explained matters related to the World Vision. The course was taken by 120 teachers and school heads from basic education schools in Tahley.

Instructors from Social Welfare Department trained the teachers.

Kyemon-Maung Swe Nyein

Thailand to introduce Japan-funded flood forecast system

BANGKOK, 20 Sept—A Japan-funded flood forecast system will go into full swing in Thailand on Friday, drawing lessons from the massive flooding in the Southeast Asian country in 2011, officials of a Japanese aid agency said on Thursday.

The government-linked Japan International Cooperation Agency said the Internet-based system for the Chao Phraya River basin is the first of its kind in the world.

The floods inundated hundreds of factories and other manufacturing facilities, many of them owned by Japanese companies or supplying Japanese firms operating in central Thailand. To prevent the same problems, JICA started developing the system in July last year under a budget of around 400 million yen and has decided to commence full-fledged operation following testing.

The system will make use of data on rainfall and water levels monitored by Thai authorities as well as data obtained using a Japan-developed "rainfall runoff model" and JICA laser equipment. Under the system, the public will be notified in English and Thai about water levels on a daily and weekly basis, and flood forecasts for the coming week will be issued, JICA officials said.

Kyodo News

Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra (C) attends the second reading of the bill in the House of Representatives empowering the Finance Ministry to borrow 2 trillion baht for infrastructure projects at the Parliament House in Bangkok, Thailand, on 19 Sept, 2013.—XINHUA

Japan automakers exhibit low-cost green cars at Indonesia auto show

Honda Motor Co President Takanobu Ito (L) stands by the Mobilio, a seven-seater minivan to go on sale in January 2014, as the 21st Indonesia International Motor Show 2013 opens in Jakarta on 19 Sept, 2013.
KYODO NEWS

JAKARTA, 20 Sept—Japanese automakers exhibited their low-cost green cars at the 21st Indonesia International Motor Show 2013 that opened on Thursday in Jakarta, hoping to capitalize on a new Indonesian government policy that gives tax exemptions for the eco-friendly cars.

The luxury tax exemption, expected to give a boost for Japanese car manufacturers, applies to locally assembled vehicles with engine capacities of less than 1200 cc and a minimum fuel consumption of 20 kilometres per liter.

Toyota Motor Co and Daihatsu Motor Corp, which have joint ventures with PT Astra International Tbk to produce green cars in Indonesia, unveiled their Toyota Agya and Daihatsu Ayla cars, which comes in variants with prices ranging from 76 million to 120 million rupiah (about 650,000 to 1.03 million yen).

Among other low-cost green cars exhibited at the auto show, Nissan Motor Co took the wraps off the Datsun GO+ five-seater and seven-seater cars, both with 1200 cc engine capacities, which will be build at Nissan's plant in Purwakarta, some 80 kilometres southeast of Jakarta, and sell for under 100 million rupiah.

Honda Motor Co staged the Honda Brio Satya with 1200 cc engine as their low cost green car, while Suzuki Motor Corp launched the Karimun Wagon R with engine capacities 1000 cc, which will be assembled at a plant in Cikarang, in the suburbs of Jakarta. The auto show, which claims to be the largest of its kind in Southeast Asia, will last until 29 September.—*Kyodo News*

China, Australia push up New Zealand visitor figures to August record

WELLINGTON, 20 Sept—Visitors from China and Australia pushed overseas tourist numbers to a record August high last month, the New Zealand government statistics agency announced on Friday.

Visitor arrivals in New Zealand reached 189,300 in August, up 6 percent from August last year, according to Statistics New Zealand.

"Short-term travel both in and out of New Zealand has climbed every August since 2009," population statistics manager Andrea Blackburn said in a statement.

The increase mostly came from Australia (up 4,500) and China (up 3,400).

In the year ended August, there were 2.658 million visitors from all countries, up 1 percent from the previous year.

Xinhua

A Pakistani postman collects letters from a mailbox in southwest Pakistan's Quetta, on 19 Sept, 2013. Pakistan Post has a network of around 13,000 post offices across the country.—XINHUA

Cambodia records 25,050 malaria cases in 8 months, killing six people

PHNOM PENH, 20 Sept—Cambodia reported 25,050 malaria cases in the first eight months of this year, down 49 percent from the 48,810 cases over the same period last year, figures from the National Centre for Malaria showed on Thursday.

During the January-August period this year, the disease has killed six people, down sharply from 31 deaths in the same period last year, the figures said. Char Meng Chuor, director of the center, told *Xinhua* that death toll from malaria was no longer a major concern for the Cambodian people.

Last year, more than a million of mosquito nets were given free- of-charge to the vulnerable groups of people throughout the country to curb the disease.

The country is committed to stopping the death from malaria by 2015 and entirely eliminating it by 2025, he said.

Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease, which is often found in rainy seasons and mostly happens in forest and mountainous Provinces. Last year, the country reported 45,553 cases of malaria, killing 45 people.—*Xinhua*

Vietnam builds 1st ever energy-generating waste plant

HANOI, 20 Sept—The construction of the first waste treatment facility to generate electricity from bio-waste started in Vietnam's capital Hanoi on Thursday.

The Nam Son industrial waste treatment complex, which is located in Hanoi's Soc Son District, is the first of its kind in Vietnam, using Japan's incinerators with advanced technologies to turn the heat from industrial and hazardous garbage treatment process into electricity, reported local online newspaper Nhandan (the People).

The system is capable of treating 75 tons of waste per day and can produce 1,930kW of thermal power.

The project costs over 612 billion Vietnamese dong (29 million US dollars) to build, of which over 472 billion Vietnamese dong (22.4 million US dollars) came from non-refundable aid from Japan's New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization.

The project will provide the electricity for the whole complex, which is one of the measures to deal with the glut of waste in Hanoi. Solid waste burial grounds may be reduced and the industrial waste in both Hanoi and neighbouring provinces will be properly dealt with, said the Hanoi Urban Environment Company, the representatives of the owners of this project.

The complex is expected to be put into operations in late 2014.—*Xinhua*

A flight attendant (L) hands souvenirs to passengers at Naha Airport in Okinawa Prefecture on 20 Sept, 2013, as budget carrier Peach Aviation Ltd launches a daily round-trip service linking Naha and Taipei.—KYODO NEWS

Singapore Airlines, joint venture partner to start airline in India

MUMBAI, 20 Sept—Singapore Airlines and an Indian joint venture partner applied on Thursday for a license to establish a new airline in India, according to the partner, Tata Sons.

In a Press statement, Tata Sons said it and Singapore Airlines have signed a memorandum of understanding to that end and applied to India's Foreign Investment Promotion Board for the license.

The proposed New Delhi-based airline would be owned 51 percent by Tata Sons and the rest by Singapore Airlines.

"We now have the opportunity to launch a world-class, full-service airline in India. We are delighted that we are partnering in this endeavor with the world-renowned Singapore Airlines," Prasad Menon, who will chair the joint venture, was quoted as saying.

Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV IMEX TRANS 08 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IMEX TRANS 08 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

PPhone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MINDORO VOY NO (141)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MINDORO VOY NO (141) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.9.2013 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 ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (35)

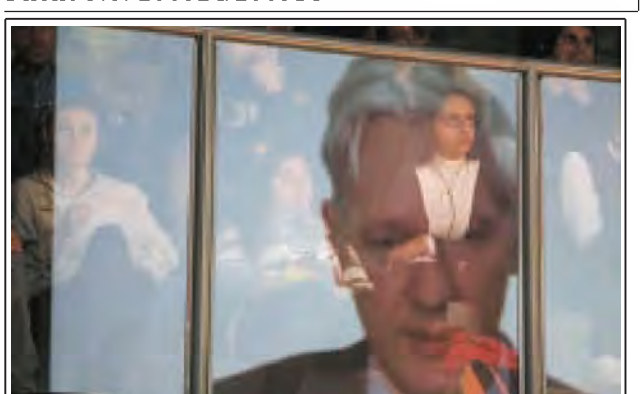
Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (35) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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: NYK LINE

Phone No: 256924/256914



Residents attend a videoconference in which participates Julian Assange, founder and spokesman of WikiLeaks, from the Ecuador's embassy in London, in the framework of the "Freedom, privacy and the future of Internet" seminar, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 18 Sept, 2013.—XINHUA

MINISTRY OF ELECTRIC POWER
Invitation of Open Proposal

1. The Ministry of Electric Power invites all Foreign and Local Investors to submit -
   (1). Proposal for Renting of Gas Engine Generator near Kyaukse and
   (2). Proposal for Implementation of Combined Cycle Power Plant (CCPP) near Myingyan as Independent Power Producer (IPP) system.
2. Natural gas resources for both projects shall be "SHWE" offshore gas.
3. For proposal (1), both of Technical and Commercial Proposal shall be submitted not later than at 16:00 hr on 18th October 2013.
4. For proposal (2), Technical proposal shall be submitted not later than at 16:00 hr on 30th November 2013.
5. Detail information and Technical Specification related to

(a) Renting Gas Engine Generator can be inquired up to (30-9-2013).
(b) Implementation of Combined Cycle Power Plant can be inquired up to (15-10-2013).

Please contact the following address during the office hour;

Contact Address: Managing Director
Myanma Electric-Power Enterprise,
Ministry of Electric Power,
Office No. (27), Nay Pyi Taw
Phone : +95 67 410202
Fax +95 67 410074

6. Bidding rules and facts of the project can be available after the next day of this invitation at Material Planning Department, Myanma Electric Power Enterprise.

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro.

Sr No.	Tender No	Description
1.	15(T)7/MR(E) 2013-2014	Tamping Unit for Automatic Levelling , Lining and Tamping Machine (ED/ALL.TM.No.01) (1)Set

Closing Date & Time - 23.10.2013(Wednesday)(12:00)Hour.

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 23.9.2013 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways. Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone:95-1-291985, 291994

Canada to aid Palestine CAD 5 million

OTTAWA, 20 Sept — Canada will contribute five million Canadian dollars (4.85 million US dollars) to support economic growth for the Palestinian people, said Foreign Minister John Baird. He said Canada is strongly committed to the prosperity and security of the Palestinian people after a meeting with Riad Malki, visiting minister of foreign affairs of the Palestinian Authority.

"We strongly believe that stability and security is critical to a two-state solution," Baird said at a media gathering.

Baird said the aid is to help improve business development, increase economic opportunities and create jobs in the West Bank and Gaza.

It is part of a 100-million-Canadian-dollar (97-million-dollar) initiative to kickstart economic development in the region ahead of a meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, members of which will meet in New York next week to discuss further coordination for Palestinian development.

Baird said he had "a good exchange" with Malki on a wide range of issues, including security, economic development, the Palestinian territories and the peace process, among others.

Malki said that the meeting was "productive and frank" and that they agreed on "most of the issues" discussed.

"Support to increasing economic opportunities for the Palestinian people is another expression of Canada's commitment to the revitalized Middle East peace process," said Baird. "Sustainable economic growth in the West Bank and Gaza is a key factor in social stability, regional security and the viability of a future Palestinian state."—*Xinhua*

Belarus says ready to extradite Uralkali CEO to Russia

MINSK, 20 Sept — Belarus said on Thursday it was ready to extradite the head of the Russian potash producer Uralkali arrested in the country last month, softening its stance in a bitter dispute stemming from Uralkali's pull out of a lucrative potash partnership with Belarus.

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said that he did not rule out the possibility of extraditing Uralkali CEO Vladislav Baumgertner if Russian law enforcement agencies conduct an appropriate inquiry into his actions in accordance with the law. "If Russian investigators are interested in the extradition of Russian citizen Baumgertner, arrested by us, I do not see any particular obstacles," he said.

Stressing that the potash row should not be allowed to spoil bilateral relations, the president urged the countries to do everything possible to investigate this dispute.

Baumgertner, former chairman of Belarusian Potash Company, a joint venture set up by Uralkali and Belaruskali in 2005, was detained on Aug. 26 while visiting the Belarusian capital, a month after the collapse of the potash sales cartel. The former alliance between the two companies controlled about 40 percent of the world potash market.

The arrest put a new strain on the relationship between Russia and Belarus.

Belarus accused Baumgertner of abuse of power after Uralkali pulled out of the trading agreement, a move that infuriated Belarus and could bring international potash prices down 25 percent.

Xinhua

Floods devastate central Vietnam, leaving two dead

HANOI, 20 Sept — Floods triggered by a tropical depression hit Vietnam's central and Central Highlands region, leaving two dead, one injured and other 12 people missing, said a report by the Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control on Thursday.

Floods caused by heavy rains submerged thousands of houses and large areas of rice and vegetables as well as damaged many roads.

The Central Highlands Province of Dak Lak reported one person died and as many as 2,107 houses were inundated while other 2,110 households were evacuated.

Landslides blocked two provincial routes in Kon Tum Province and four suspension bridges collapsed, said the committee.

In the central Quang Tri Province, a Lao nationality died while another local resident was injured.

The National Centre for Hydro-Meteorology Forecasting forecast that water level in rivers in the region will continue rising in the coming days. The centre also warned central provinces about landslides and flash floods in mountainous areas.—*Xinhua*

ENTERTAINMENT

Harrison Ford to receive lifetime achievement award

LONDON, 20 Sept—Veteran actor Harrison Ford will receive a lifetime achievement award at the Zurich Film Festival next month.

The Star Wars and Indiana Jones actor will be honoured for his hugely successful career in Hollywood at the Annual Film Gala in Switzerland on 4 October, reported Contactmusic.

"Harrison Ford has had one of the most remarkable careers of any actor in cinema, helping to propel two of the greatest movie franchises by bringing to life iconic roles that have become just as famous as the films themselves.

"Few actors have commanded the leading man role that Harrison Ford has embodied throughout his career, and continues to showcase in every new project," said festival directors Karl Spoerri and Nadja Schildknecht in a statement.

Veteran actor Harrison Ford

Adding to the celebrations, the Zurich Film Festival will hold a special screening of the first Indiana Jones movie, 1981's Raiders of the Lost Ark.

Ford recently signed up for a role in The Expendables 3 with Sylvester Stallone and is expected to reprise his famous role as Han Solo in 2015's Star Wars Episode VII, which will be directed by JJ Abrams.—*PTI*

Actress Kerry Washington named best dressed woman by People magazine

NEW YORK, 20 Sept—Actress Kerry Washington, who was nominated for an Emmy for her role in the ABC television drama "Scandal," was named the "World's Best Dressed Woman" by *People* magazine on Wednesday.

Washington, 36, headed a list that included Academy Award-winner Jennifer Lawrence, singer-songwriter Solange Knowles and actresses Jenna Dewan-Tatum and Kate Bosworth.

"I don't wear a lot of pants," Washington said in a statement announcing the honour. "When I go somewhere I want to know I'm going to be comfortable and I'm dressed for the event."

People magazine Executive Editor Elizabeth Sporkin praised Washington for her fashion sense.

"There has been a trend this year in lady like fashion and I think she is almost single-handedly responsible for it," Sporkin said in an interview.

Reuters

Actor Brad Pitt

Brad Pitt gatecrashes wedding

LONDON, 20 Sept—Actor Brad Pitt made the wedding reception of a young couple even more special by going and having drink during their celebrations. Bride Abi Lingwood was surprised when her husband Daniel told her that Pitt was having a drink at their bar.

The reception was taking place in the same hotel where Pitt was staying, reports dailymail.co.uk.

"My husband said to me Brad Pitt was at the bar and you have got to come with me so he dragged me across the hotel. I thought he was joking," Lingwood told the local newspaper *Maidenhead Advertiser.*

The actor, who is shooting new World War II blockbuster Fury at the nearby Pinewood Studios, was spotted enjoying a drink at the bar of the Maidenhead hotel by Daniel.

The couple even got a quick picture clicked with the actor.—*PTI*

Jennifer Garner confronts paparazzo for recording video of her children

LOS ANGELES, 20 Sept—Actress Jennifer Garner confronted a paparazzo after she saw him recording video of her kids at a market.

The 41-year-old star who has three kids, Violet, Seraphina and Samuel with husband Ben Affleck, confronted the paparazzo by pointing her camera at his face, reported E!Online.

Garner had joined hands with actress Halle Berry to support a proposed anti-paparazzi bill that would make photographing their children without their permission a crime.

"I chose a public life. My three children are private citizens. I love my kids. They're beautiful and sweet and innocent, and I don't want a gang of shouting, arguing, lawbreaking photographers who camp out everywhere we are all day, every day, to continue traumatising my kids," Garner had said at the time.—*PTI*

Actress Jennifer Garner

Arnold Schwarzenegger doesn't have a role in Avatar 2

LOS ANGELES, 20 Sept—Contrary to reports, Arnold Schwarzenegger is not doing a role in James Cameron's Avatar 2.

There were reports that Schwarzenegger, who worked with Cameron's Terminator franchise, will reunite with the director on the billion dollar franchise to play a "bad guy human general" but 20th Century Fox has denied that the actor was approached for a role, said the *Hollywood Reporter.*

Cameron is bringing three sequels to Avatar. The director has hired screenwriters Josh Friedman of War Of The Worlds and Shane Salerno of Salinger fame to collaborate with him on the screenplays for the three films.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

The three pictures will be filmed simultaneously with production beginning next year. The release of the first sequel will be in December 2016, with the second to follow in December 2017, and the third a year later.—*PTI*

SPORTS

United's Rooney back at his best, says Ferguson

LONDON, 20 Sept— Former Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has lavished praise on Wayne Rooney's form in comments that are being interpreted in the British media as the extension of an olive branch to the unsettled player.

Ferguson was critical of the England striker's form last season and the Scot's disclosure in May that Rooney wanted to leave Old Trafford was reported to have fuelled the 27-year-old's desire to seek a new challenge elsewhere.

Although Ferguson handed over the managerial reins to David Moyes in the off-season, he remains a director at the club and is widely perceived to retain considerable influence behind the scenes.

Three bids for Rooney from Premier League rivals Chelsea were rejected in August, though, and his display in the 4-2 Champions League win over Bayer Leverkusen on Tuesday, when he scored two goals, had Ferguson purring.

"Wayne's performance was fantastic, I was pleased to see that," the 71-year-old told the club's in-house TV station.

Manchester United's Wayne Rooney (L) shoots from a free kick against Bayer Leverkusen during their Champions League soccer match at Old Trafford Manchester, northern England on 17 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

"He's got his energy back—the determination, his purpose to attack players, was all very encouraging to me. "Being a director, I'm delighted to see that. He's back to what we always remember him as."

The goals against Leverkusen brought Rooney's tally at the club to 200 in 406 appearances, leaving him fourth on United's all-time leading scorers' list behind Bobby Charlton (249), Denis Law (237) and Jack Rowley (211).

Restored to his preferred striker's role after being sometimes deployed by Ferguson in midfield last year, Rooney adds another attacking threat to that of Robin van Persie, who was top scorer in the Premier League last season with 26 goals.

"We will have a fantastic chance because in Van Persie and Rooney, you have forwards who can win you games," said Ferguson, who led United to their 20th English title last season.

Rooney, who has two years left on his current contract, was non-committal about his future at United after the Leverkusen match, telling reporters he was concentrating on his football.

Reuters

Papers crack out the egg jokes to mock Mourinho

LONDON, 20 Sept— Jose Mourinho's description of his Chelsea players as "beautiful, young eggs" came back to haunt him as English newspapers dredged up a wealth of egg-related puns to mock his team's defeat to Basel in their Champions League group.

"Mourinho has egg on his face" and "Mourinho shell shocked" appeared in more than one paper, while Thursday's The Sun went for "Rotten Eggs" as the media heaped blame on the Portuguese manager for Wednesday's 2-1 home defeat.

It was Chelsea's first home defeat in the Champions League group stages in 30 matches and followed a loss to Everton in the Premier League last Saturday.

Before the Group E tie, Mourinho, who returned to the London side in June six years after leaving following a fall-out with Russian billionaire owner Roman Abramovich, laughed as he told a news conference his players were "beautiful, young eggs" who needed nurturing. Mourinho was not smiling, however, as the 2012 European champions were booed off the pitch at Stamford Bridge while Abramovich, according to *the Daily Mirror*, had "eyes as hard as stone".

Chelsea's manager Jose Mourinho watches his team during their Champions League soccer match against Basel at Stamford Bridge in London on 18 Sept, 2013. REUTERS

The Mirror lambasted Chelsea for a "lack of cohesion, drive, purpose and imagination" while *the Guardian* said their performance "lacked drive, spark and anything resembling an attacking plan B".

Mourinho's side were missing a "meat-and-potatoes centre-forward", the Guardian added and "at times this season... have resembled a brilliantly-armoured cavalier riding into battle waving a baguette".

All the papers criticised Chelsea for sending Belgian Romelu Lukaku on loan to Everton and for not making more use of Spaniard Juan Mata, who came on as a substitute for 30-million-pound signing Willian in the 67th minute.

Cameroon's Samuel Eto'o, brought in on the wave of new players to fill the lieutenant role occupied by Didier Drogba in Mourinho's first stint at the club, came in for particular criticism with *The Times* calling him "a passenger" and *The Sun* condemning him as "sluggish".—*Reuters*

Suarez ready for seamless return

Liverpool's Luis Suarez controls the ball against Thailand's national soccer team during a friendly soccer match at Ratchamangkala Stadium in Bangkok, on 28 July, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 20 Sept— Liverpool striker Luis Suarez's return from a 10-match ban "will be seamless", insists manager Brendan Rodgers.

The Uruguayan completes his suspension for biting Chelsea defender Branislav Ivanovic last season when Liverpool host Southampton on Saturday and Rodgers says he is fully prepared for a return.

Rodgers told the club's website (www.liverpoolfc.com) on Thursday: "We have been organising some games behind closed doors, both in terms of in-house 11-a-side matches and bringing teams in.

"The idea is that hopefully when he steps back in it will be seamless. Of course there will be a transitional period for him but I am really looking forward to having him back."

Significantly, Suarez is set to make his return for the Merseyside club against bitter rivals Manchester United at Old Trafford in the Capital One Cup on 25 September.

Liverpool have started the season brightly, sitting top of the Premier League with 10 points from four games, and the return of Suarez, with 23 league goals last season, is sure to be a further boost for the Reds.

Reuters

Jaded Williams withdraws from Tokyo tournament

TOKYO, 20 Sept— Women's world number one Serena Williams has pulled out of next week's Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo citing fatigue, Japan's *Kyodo news* agency reported on Thursday.

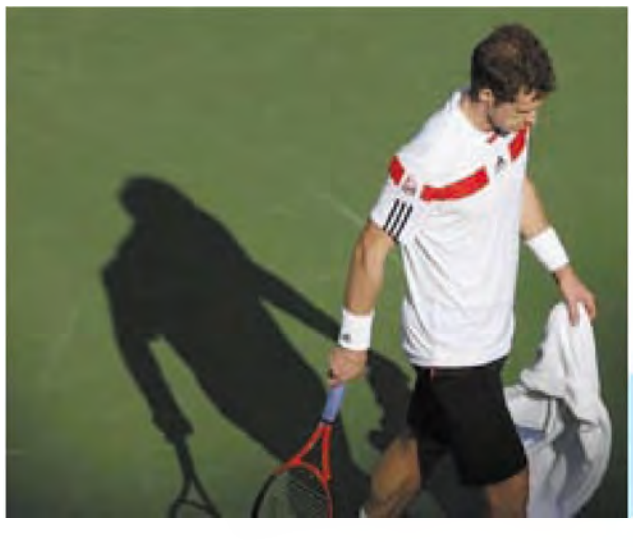
"I'm disappointed to have to withdraw from the Pan Pacific Open, which I was very much looking forward to playing this year," the American was quoted as saying.

"Unfortunately with the number of matches I have played throughout the summer I need more time to properly recover."

Williams, who won her fifth US Open singles title this month, was the latest high-profile withdrawal from the 22-28 September tournament after Russian Maria Sharapova also pulled out last week to recover from a right shoulder injury.—*Reuters*

Serena Williams

Murray to have back surgery, may miss rest of season



Andy Murray of Britain pauses during a break in play against Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 20 Sept— Wimbledon champion Andy Murray is to undergo minor back surgery and may be sidelined for the rest of the season, the BBC reported on Thursday.

The 26-year-old missed this year's French Open due to a back injury but recovered to become the first British man to win Wimbledon for 77 years.

He lost his US Open title in a quarter-final defeat this month to Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka.

Murray, the world number three, has qualified for the season-ending World Tour finals in London in November but may be forced to miss the tournament, the report said.—*Reuters*

GENERAL

*Citizens participate in an earthquake drill in Mexico City, Mexico, on 19 Sept, 2013, the 28th anniversary of a devastating earthquake that killed up to 40,000 people in the capital on 19 Sept, 1985.—*XINHUA

Sydney launches summer celebration of aboriginal culture

SYDNEY, 20 Sept—Sydney's connection to the aboriginal "dreaming," will be celebrated for the first time this year, in a new event that organizers hope will celebrate and inspire visitors form around the world and reconnect Australia's largest city with the meaning and power of indigenous Australian culture.

At a quiet launch on Thursday, rich in significance and symbolism, NSW Governor Professor Marie Bashir joined the state Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Arts, George Souris, and the Corroboree Council of Elders at Mrs. Macquarie's Chair opposite the Sydney Opera House to introduce the official program for Corroboree Sydney, Australia's newest and most ambitious annual, national indigenous festival.

Taking place in the first breaths of Sydney's summer, between Nov.14-24, Corroboree Sydney will include a range of free and ticketed events held around Sydney's iconic Harbor foreshore, arts precinct and parks showcasing indigenous literature, visual arts, performing arts, live music, films, crafts and design. All celebrating the aboriginal connection to the land and its Dreamtime, or "Dreaming"

"Dreaming" has no equivalent in English, its merely an approximate translation of an Aboriginal concept, which attempts to describe the aboriginal connection to the spirit of the country.

Koori groups each have their own words for this concept: for example the Pitjantjatjara people use the term Tjukurpa, the Arrernte refer to it as Aldjerinya and the Adnyamathanha use the word Nguthuna.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(21-9-2013, Saturday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Min Gun Sayadaw

6:25 am
2. Physical Exercise

6:30 am
3. Dance & Song of National Races

6:45 am
4. Documentary

7:00 am
5. News

7:20 am
6. Business News

7:45 am
7. Hyper Sports

8:00 am
8. News

8:25 am
9. India Drama Series

9:00 am
10. News/International News

9:25 am
11. Documentary (Traveller)

10:00 am
12. News

10:15 am
13. TV Drama Series

11:00 am
14. Shwe Yin Khone Than

11:35 am
15. Game for Children

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

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

2:00 pm
18. Hyper Sports

3:00 pm
19. News

3:15 pm
20. TV Drama Series

4:00 pm
21. News

4:15 pm
22. Business News

4:30 pm
23. Dance & Song of National Races

4:45 pm
24. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Zoology)

5:00 pm
25. News

5:15 pm
26. Road to 27th SEA Games (Billiards & Snooker)

5:30 pm
27. Game for Children

6:00 pm
28. News

6:25 pm
29. Documentary (SEA Game)

7:00 pm
30. News

7:15 pm
31. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
32. News

8:35 pm
33. Business News

9:00 pm
34. News
35. Myanmar Series
36. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn
37. Documentary

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(21-9-13 09:30 am ~ 22-9-13 09:30 am) MST

* Local News
* Pa O in the Union
* World News
* Let's taste "Sabuti"
* Local News
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* Let's taste "Sabuti"

Shock defeats for Valencia and PSV in Europa League

LONDON, 20 Sept—The attractive football preached by Swansea City manager Michael Laudrup was displayed to great effect when the Welsh side stunned 10-man Valencia with a 3-0 away victory in the Europa League on Thursday.

In their first season in European competition for 22 years, English League Cup holders Swansea took advantage of defender Adil Rami's 10th-minute dismissal to run riot in the Group A clash at the Mestalla with goals from Wilfried Bony, Michu and Jonathan De Guzman.

The opening group stage matches produced another shock in Eindhoven where PSV, one of five teams in action who have previously won the UEFA Cup or Europa League, were beaten 2-0 by Bulgarian champions Ludogorets Razgrad in Group B.

England striker Jermain Defoe struck twice in Tottenham Hotspur's 3-0 home Group K win over Tromso, his 19th and 20th goals in Europe for the London club.

Substitute Kevin Gameiro's goal lifted twice UEFA Cup winners Sevilla to a 2-1 win at Estoril in Group H and a second-half goal from Brazilian Hernanes secured Lazio three points with a 1-0 home victory over Legia Warsaw in Group J.

Swansea's record signing Bony continued his prolific start after joining from Vitesse Arnhem in July for 12 million pounds ($19.27 million) with a powerful first-time finish from Michu's centre, just minutes after Valencia had been reduced to 10 men.

Ivorian international Bony, with four goals in Europe this season, was set to race clean through before last man Rami impeded his progress and was shown a straight red card.

Spaniard Michu, whose first campaign in English football yielded 18 Premier League goals last season, again displayed his clinical finishing by doubling Swansea's lead after 58 minutes from Alejandro Pozuelo's pass.

A woeful night for Valencia, who won the 2004 UEFA Cup and were beaten finalists in successive Champions League finals at the turn of the century, was capped when De Guzman curled in a delightful free kick from 30 metres just past the hour.

Laudrup, who fielded six Spaniards in his starting lineup - Valencia only had four - said Swansea had "dominated from start to finish.

"It could have been more than three and 1'm very pleased to beat a club like Valencia," said the Dane.

Swansea City's Alejandro Pozuelo (R) is tackled by Valencia's Javier Fuego during their Europa League match at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia, on 19 Sept, 2013.
REUTERS

PSV goalkeeper Jeroen Zoet's misplaced clearance on the hour handed Ludogorets the opening goal in Eindhoven.

Zoet rushed out of his area to clear a long ball but found only Roman Bezjak who stroked it back past him into the empty net.

Reuters

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News on five foreign bank accounts worth US$11 billion totally untrue

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—A press meet between the Union ministers and deputy ministers and media was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Industry, here, this morning. Union Minister U Win Shein explained measures for clearance of debts owed to the World Bank (WB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) taken by Myanmar before 1988 at Hluttaws. There are four ways of debt clearance: clearance through Myanmar's foreign reserves, clearance through donors' aids, clearance through a bridging loan and clearance through special aids. Among them, Myanmar has chosen the clearance of arrears to WB and ADB by financing from a bridging loan. Approval was sought at 9th day session of fifth regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 22 November, 2012 for debt clearance.

Press meeting between the Union Ministers and deputy ministers and media in progress.—MNA

The Union Minister continued that **the Daily Eleven newspaper in its September 12 issue carried a news story that Myanmar had five foreign bank accounts worth US$11 billion; and due to their reason, the World Bank did not cancel the debts. The story is totally untrue.** He said that he had already got the clarification from World Bank's agent stating that the story is untrue.

Deputy Minister U Ye Htut urged media to pay a special attention to accuracy of news, which is the most important point in media ethic. Covering inaccurate and unreliable news could mislead the people about financial and monetary reforms being carried out by the government. In this case, media failed to get confirmation from the ministry concerned, he added. The Union ministers, the deputy ministers and departmental heads replied to the queries on micro finance scheme, Myanmar's efforts for becoming a member of Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), black money and money laundering, land disputes and launching of stock exchange.

It was attended by Union Minister U Soe Thane, Deputy Ministers U Myint Zaw, U Thein Aung, Dr Pwint Hsan and Dr Maung Maung Thein, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Vice-Governor Daw Khin Saw Mu, official and local and foreign media and TV channels.—*MNA*

Computer associations to cooperate with ministries

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—Myanmar-Japan e-Learning Centre was established with the assistance of Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Union, said Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Myat Hein at the annual general meeting 2013 of Myanmar Computer Federation and computer associations at MICT Park in Yangon today.

He said that MCF holds national ICT award (educational project) contests for emergence of outstanding ICT technicians and gives basic ICT training courses to teachers from Education Colleges. Myanmar has established the Certification Authority (CA) that will take responsibility for security of on-line service. The CA is providing assistance of training and seminar, incident monitoring handling, and security baseline suggestions to national level Computer Emergency Response Team (MMCERT).

The Union minister stressed the need for computer associations to cooperate with ministries including Ministry of CIT for implementation of e-Government System which plays a key role in implementation of good government and clean government system.

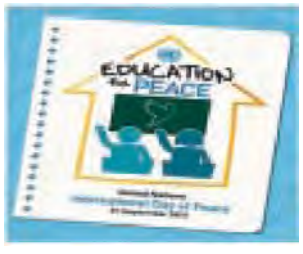
Chairmen of Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association, Professionals and Enthusiast Associations submitted reports on their respective sectors.

The Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Union Minister, the deputy minister and officials presented certificates to trainees at the computer technology courses conducted by MCF in 2013.—*MNA*

UNESCO Initiates Peace Education Project in Northern Rakhine State of Myanmar with support from the Belgium Government

YANGON, 20 Sept—The Ministry of Education in Myanmar has approved UNESCO's peace education project in Northern Rakhine State. The announcement of the project's approval aptly coincides with the International Day of Peace on 21 September with the theme of "Education for Peace." This reaffirms the commitment of the Ministry of Education to promote peace education as a means for fostering mutual respect for cultural diversity at the school level and to jointly implement the project with UNESCO through funding support from the Belgium government.

Following the recent communal violence in Rakhine State, resulting in an ongoing humanitarian situation which has affected hundreds of schools and thousands of students, the government of Myanmar and international community has identified peace education as one of the priority to address underlying causes of the communal tension. The overall aim of the peace education project is to enhance the capacity of school teachers, students and their parents to facilitate inclusive problem-solving processes and consensus-building around community priorities and to strengthen the commitment to an inclusive civic national identity. Through a conflict-sensitive approach to education, the project will support local leaders, teachers, students, parents and civil society to facilitate constructive civic dialogue that promotes inter-cultural awareness and peaceful co-existence. The project will promote the long term goal of education to overcome discrimination and exclusion through human rights-based, quality education.



The project will be implemented in three townships in Northern Rakhine State—Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Rathedaung—and will train 350 teachers from 40 conflict-affected schools in peace education, benefiting approximately 10,000 students. The project also aims to reactivate 40 Parent Teacher Associations and set-up three Community Learning Centres. The Ministry of Education indicated interest in seeing the training modules developed under this project rolled-out for use in other cease-fire areas in Myanmar.—*MNA*

Public Affairs Administration Work Committee meets

Meeting on Public Affairs Administration Work Committee in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept—The Public Affairs Administration Work Committee held a coordination meeting at the hall of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, here, this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun stressed the need to improve government administrative machinery for making remarkable progress in political, economic and social reforms of the four reform processes. Thus, all-out efforts are being made for emergence of the improved government administrative machinery meeting the characteristics of good governance, clean government, transparency, accountability and responsibility.

Effective and efficient governing system is one of 10 points of the Framework on Economic and Social Reforms-FESR adopted in December 2012, he noted. He called for carrying out capability raising work processes through effective decision making and efficient implementation, accountability and responsibility, rule of law, transparency, immediate response to cases and problems, mass participation, informing the mass and seeking response, listening to public voice, just and fair administration and management in line with desire of the majority, and doing away with bias and corruption.

He urged the attendees to exchange views on future tasks for improvement of public affairs administration and make all-out efforts in implementation of the tasks.

Acting Head of Operations Mr Ian Hoskins of EU and Country Director Mr Toily Kurbanov of UNDP made opening addresses. The departmental heads and representatives from partnership organizations discussed future tasks in improvement of public affairs administration.

A total of 16 sectoral working groups were formed in the Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum in Nay Pyi Taw for the first time in January this year according to the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration. Of them, the Public Affairs Administration Work Committee held the first meeting.

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