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President U Thein Sein attends opening of 9th China-ASEAN Expo

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—A ceremony to open the 9th China-ASEAN Expo was held in Nanning, Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the People's Republic of China this morning and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on behalf of the PRC and the ASEAN nations, participated as a "Country of Honour". Also present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar were Vice-President of the PRC Mr Xi Jinping, Prime Minister of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, representatives from the ASEAN nations, Governor of Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Mr Ma Biao and officials.

At the ceremony, Governor of Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Mr Ma Biao, Representative of Chinese International Trade Sector Mr Guo Hucheng and

(See page 8)



Opening ceremony of 9th China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit in progress.—MNA

Closer cooperation key to win-win development: President U Thein Sein



NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—President U Thein Sein expressed ASEAN's dedication to establishment of ASEAN-China Free Trade Area and maintaining it as he addressed the opening of 9th ASEAN-China Business and Investment Summit in

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein delivers an address at ceremony to open 9th ASEAN-China Business and Investment Summit.

MNA

Nanning of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomic Region, China this morning.

Myanmar acted as a "Country of Honour" on behalf of ASEAN nations. Myanmar President U Thein Sein, Chinese Vice-President Mr Xi Jinping and personnel delivered inaugural speeches on the occasion. Present on the occasion were Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, delegates of ASEAN countries, personnel from China and ASEAN countries and businessmen.

In his speech, President U Thein Sein said all ASEAN countries wish to see promotion of mutually beneficial cooperation between them and China, adding that the partners would fully cooperate with each other for emergence of ASEAN-China FTA and its sustainability. ASEAN countries and China are committed to preserve and

promote historic relations among neighbours, cherishing the traditional amicable relationship.

The President reaffirmed closer cooperation between ASEAN and China for the sake of peace, stability and development in the region and outside of the region. The theme of this year's summit is "Improving Connectivity and Joining Hands for Win-Win Cooperation."

The bilateral trade revenues between ASEAN and China reached 232 billion USD in 2010. In addition, with annual

increase in number of visitors among regional countries, it is projected 15 million regional visitors in 2015.

During his visit, President U Thein Sein was awarded Honorary Doctorate by Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University for his poverty alleviation efforts in Myanmar through rural development scheme. The President, in his acceptance speech, said it would be more meaningful for him if he could share the honour and achievement with Myanmar people.

MNA

Aguero ready to return for Man City against Arsenal

LONDON, 21 Sept—2012 Sergio Aguero is set to return up front for Manchester City against Arsenal on Sunday as Roberto Mancini's side aim to shrug off the midweek Champions League defeat by Real Madrid. Midfielder Samir Nasri will miss the trip to his former club, however, after suffering a hamstring

injury against Real.

Argentine Aguero has not played since injuring his knee on the opening weekend of the Premier League season against Southampton but

was an unused substitute in the Bernabeu on Tuesday when City conceded twice late on to lose 3-2.

"Sergio is fit," Mancini told a news conference on Friday. "I wanted to put him on in the Bernabeu but we had a couple of injuries."

The visit of in-form Arsenal will be a stern test for City who have started the defence of their title in steady, if unspectacular, fashion. City have eight points from their first four games, four fewer than at the same stage last season when they began in barnstorming fashion, scoring 15 goals in four games and conceding three. —Reuters



CDMA, GSM towers erected in Natogyi

NATOGYI, 21 Sept—The 52 feet high CDMA towers have been erected in Pyinsi Village and Ward 4 in Natogyi for ensuring smooth communication of CDMA mobile phones.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications also erected GSM towers in Ward 5, Ywagyi Village and Pyinsi on Highway Road for GSM mobile phones.

Thanks to efforts of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, CDMA and GSM mobile phone users in Natogyi Township enjoy better communication service.

Kyemon

Space shuttle Endeavour lands piggyback in California



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European shares, euro claw back up after sell-off



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NATIONAL

Union Sports Minister encourages athletes

YANGON, 21 Sept — Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan encouraged selected athletes undergoing training to achieve success in the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar, at Nay Pyi Taw (Gold) Sports Camp today.

He urged the athletes to do training keeping their spirit up and observing high standards of disciplines to be able to bring the pride to the nation.

During his tour of inspection of Myanmar Shooting Federation today, the Union minister presented training suits, shoes and warm clothes to the athletes receiving training for shootings. He also visited Myanmar Archery Federation and presented training suits, shoes, T-shirts and warm clothes to the athletes there.

He also visited Myanmar Physical Training Federation, Myanmar Judo Federation, Myanmar Table Tennis Federation and Myanmar Swimming Federation gave training suits, shoes, clothes and cash to trainees. —MNA

Participants seen at workshop on feasibility study on construction of dry port in Myanmar.—MNA



Money looter stabs cyclist

BAGO, 21 Sept—While Daw Aye Myint of 8th Shantan Street in Myothit (D) Ward in Bago rode along Bago-Toungoo Road to buy flowers at 4.30 pm on 17 September, an unknown person wearing raincoat stabbed her and snatched K 100,000 from the basket of bicycle.

Daw Aye Myint was injured at her left waist.

Bago Police Station No. 1 took action against the money looter.

Myanma Alin

Two-digit illegal lottery sellers arrested

WUNDWIN, 21 Sept—Members of Wundwin Police Station of Mandalay Region together with responsible persons searched the house of Daw Htay in Kanswe Village in Wundwin Township on 13 September.

As house owner Daw

Myanmar, Japanese entrepreneurs exchange views on development of industries

YANGON, 21 Sept—A seminar was focused on foreign investment policies of Myanmar, progress of social, economic and political issues, development for SME industries, participation of Myanmar in ASEAN economic community, prospects for booming logistic economy in Yangon and other major cities, facts about Myanmar with the title of Doing Business in Myanmar and economic opportunities at the hall of

Htay went shopping, the authorities seized documents related to using two-digit illegal lottery and K 13,000 from her daughter Ma Shin Thant Oo, 20 and clerk Htay Oo, 20. Wundwin Police Station took action against the gamblers.

Myanma Alin

Union Minister meets members of Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Body

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun attended the coordination meeting on regional development held at the conference hall of Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Body in Pindaya yesterday morning.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Hla Tun said that the government is making not only eternal peace for stability of the State but is implementing projects for regional development.

Region/state governments and self-administered division/zone leading bodies also need to actively participate in the tasks. Only then, will the develop gap between rural area and urban area narrow, he said. The Union Minister stressed the need for local governments, leading bodies and people to double their efforts in the process.

Union Attorney-General receives guests from World Bank

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin received Mr. Anthony G Toft, Legal

Vice-Presidency of World Bank and party at the Credentials Hall in Union Attorney-General Office here at 11 am yesterday.

At the meeting,

Chairman of Leading Body of Danu Self-Administered Zone U Htoo Ko Ko clarified the activities for rural development and poverty alleviation task, education, health, agriculture and road transportation and sector-wise needs and Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Aung Thein from Ywangan Township reported measures for ensuring sufficient potable water, smooth transportation, education and power supply to the Union Minister.

On behalf of Shan State Government, State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat donated K 10 million, Chairman of Zone Leading Body U Htoo Ko Ko K 200,000, Townselder U Toe Toe K 150,000 and U Ba Shwe K 100,000 to Danu Education Foundation through Chairman U San Maung.

MNA

they cordially discussed matters related to be contracted for providing Grant Aid to Myanmar and to give legal suggestion for that contract, legal

procedures to be undertaken according to Myanmar legal system, the law of Union Attorney-General and the role of Union Attorney-General Office.—MNA

Feasibility study conducted for dry port construction

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—A workshop on feasibility study on construction of dry port in Myanmar was held at Tonegapuri Hotel here this morning, with an address by Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transport.

UNESCAP has taken steps to build dry ports in ASEAN region, hoping to be

of help to transport policymakers and planners of some ASEAN countries.

Personnel of UNESCAPO, MR, and Myanmar International Freight Forwarders Association conducted feasibility study in Mandalay, which is supposed to the most suitable place in the country, in July this year. The responsible

personnel of UNESCAP recounted the findings of the study.

Dr Tengfei Wang of UNESCAP and personnel discussed matters related to construction of dry ports in Myanmar. The workshop was a success, providing suggestions for construction of a dry port in the country.

MNA

District News

Wegyi Bridge across Hsinthe Creek under construction

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—The Myitta Paungku Bridge (Wegyi Bridge) damaged on 27 July 2012 across Hsinthe Creek linking Wegyi Village of Pobbathiri Township and Winbyan Village of Zeyathiri Township is under reconstruction with the participation of local villages as of 20 September.

The local people are building the bridge on a self-reliant basis for transporting local products to the markets in time and ensuring secure and smooth transport of local people.

“The bridge must be built as quickly as possible. If the bridge is to be used all the year round, it will be the best. The bridge is indispensable for health, education, social and economic affairs of the local people. Those crossing the creek by boat or other watercraft may face any danger at any time,” said a local people.—Myanma Alin



Kyemon

WORLD

Japan to seek debt relief for Myanmar at IMF meeting

JAPAN

TOKYO, 21 Sept—Japan will try to broker a deal on debt relief for fast-reforming Myanmar on the sidelines of the upcoming International Monetary Fund meeting in Tokyo, Japanese Finance

Analysts and experts April helped to transform the pariah image of Myanmar and persuade the West to begin rolling back sanctions after a year of dramatic reforms.

meeting and discuss it with other countries involved, explaining Japan's position on the issue," Azumi told reporters in Tokyo.

"If we manage to forge a common view on the matter, Myanmar will be freed from economic restraints, and thanks to that, companies, including Japanese ones, will be able to move into Myanmar smoothly."

Japan's Finance Ministry will host an international conference on Myanmar in Tokyo on 11 October on the sidelines of IMF/World Bank annual meeting.

Japan is working to provide a \$900 million bridge loan to cover Myanmar arrears to the World Bank and the Asia Development Bank through a group of Japanese banks.

A Japanese consortium signed a deal with Myanmar in August to jointly develop a special economic zone on the edge of the commercial capital, Yangon.—Reuters

Japan's Finance Minister Jun Azumi speaks during a group interview at his ministry in Tokyo on 11 April, 2012.

REUTERS



Minister Jun Azumi said on Friday.

Japan waived \$3.7 billion in Myanmar's unpaid debt in April, sending a clear signal of Tokyo's intention to capitalize on its improving investment climate and urgent infrastructure needs.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi's election to parliament in

have said there will be opportunities for foreign companies across the industrial landscape — from energy, mining and construction to agriculture, finance and tourism.

Japan is the country's biggest creditor.

"We want to put the Myanmar arrears problem under debate during the IMF

US Republican presidential nominee and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney arrives at a campaign rally in Sarasota, Florida, on 20 September, 2012.

REUTERS



Newly aggressive Romney tries another campaign reset

US

MIAMI/SARASOTA, 21 Sept—Taking a more aggressive tack after a series of reversals, Republican presidential challenger Mitt Romney accused US President Barack Obama on Thursday of "surrendering" in his attempt to change Washington.

A comment that Obama made in an interview with the Spanish-language television network Univision in Florida gave Romney an opening to charge that the Democratic president is ineffective.

Obama told Univision his 2010 US healthcare overhaul was a result of Americans exerting pressure on Washington for action because "You can't change

Washington from the inside, you can only change Washington from the outside."

An animated Romney quickly pounced on the remark as evidence that Obama cannot break the political gridlock that has seized Washington as lawmakers grapple with massive debt and annual \$1 trillion deficits.

"The president today threw in the white flag of surrender again. He said he can't change Washington from the inside, he can only change it from outside. Well, we're going to give him that chance in November. He's going outside," he said at a rally in Sarasota, Florida.

Romney is struggling to right the ship after damage from the release of a secret video from a private fundraiser in May in which he disparaged Obama supporters as dependent on

government.

In a potential headache for the former business executive, a "Super PAC" group which backs him by funding negative advertising against Obama reported it had plowed through \$21.2 million in August while its fundraising declined for the second month. That raised questions about its ability to be an ad-buying force in the final weeks before the 6 November election.

Romney's campaign has also been subjected to infighting and some Republicans have complained that he needs to campaign more.

The latest Reuters/Ipsos poll showed the challenge that Romney faces after one of the most difficult stretches of his campaign.

Reuters

Chavez plays populist card for Venezuela election

VENEZUELA

SABANETA, 21 Sept—To understand why President Hugo Chavez may win yet another election in Venezuela next month, go and sit under the mango trees of Los Rastrojos or Sabaneta.

There, in the rural villages of his childhood at the heart of Venezuela's great savannah or "llanos," family and friends pour out tales of a boy whose motor-mouth and popular touch—now mainstays of his rule—were evident early on.

Guillermo Frias recalls with glee how he and cousin "Huguito" ("little Hugo") played baseball in the dirt street using their arms for bats, and molding rubber from trees into homemade balls. "He always talked the most," Frias laughs.

An aunt, Brigida Frias, recalls Chavez's boyhood

love of kites and drawing, and shows where the idealistic young adult used to lay in a hammock during earnest conversations.

It is in those placid, sun-baked plains where Chavez the man, and Chavez the myth, both began - and went on to polarize Venezuela like never before.

It is that image, the country boy who became president and then spent years trying to help the underprivileged, which Chavez wants uppermost in the minds of voters on 7 October. His foes' ability to puncture that image, tap into disappointment with Chavez among the poor, and present their counter-image of a man whose socialist experiment has collapsed into shoddy autocracy, will determine their success.—Reuters



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez plays a guitar, which was a gift from Mexican singer Vicente Fernandez, during a cabinet meeting at Miraflores Palace in Caracas on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

US lifts ban on NZ warships, NZ keeps nuclear-free stance

US



US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta (L) smiles next to New Zealand's Minister of Defence Jonathan Coleman at the Government House in Auckland on 21 September, 2012.—REUTERS

AUCKLAND, 21 Sept—The United States has lifted a ban on visits by New Zealand warships to US defence and coast guard bases around the world, further thawing relations after a 26-year stand-off on nuclear issues.

US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta made the announcement during a visit to New Zealand on Friday. He said Washington would lift restrictions on military exercises and facilitate more talks with New Zealand even though Wellington maintains its long-held nuclear-free stance.

For the first time since the suspension of the ANZUS Treaty in 1986, Washington will allow individual visits by Royal New Zealand Navy

ships to US Department of Defence or Coast Guard facilities in the United States and around the world, Panetta said in Auckland, New Zealand's largest city.

"These changes make it easier for our militaries to engage in discussions on security issues and to hold cooperative engagements that increase our capacity to tackle common challenges," he said.

Panetta said Washington and Wellington would work together despite lingering "differences of opinion in some limited areas". The visit by Panetta, the first by a Pentagon chief in 30 years, signals a new era of US-New Zealand defence links breached in the mid-1980s, when Wellington declared

itself nuclear-free and barred its ports to nuclear warships. While both Washington and Wellington acknowledged the improvement in relations and defence ties, New Zealand Defence Minister Jonathan Coleman said New Zealand had an independent foreign policy and that its anti-nuclear ban was not negotiable.

"I don't think that we should get too hung up about trying to turn the clock back to pre-1986 because the reality is that the relationship is very, very good," Coleman said at a news conference following their meeting.

New Zealand has a small contingent of troops fighting with US and NATO troops in Afghanistan. During his visit Panetta is also meeting with other senior leaders to explore deeper US military engagement with New Zealand as the United States rebalances its forces to the Asia-Pacific as part of a new military strategy.

In July, the United States and New Zealand agreed to hold regular high-level talks and to cooperate on maritime security, counter-terrorism, and peacekeeping operations. US Marines trained in New Zealand earlier this year, and New Zealand's navy took part in the multi-nation Rimpac maritime exercise ships in July.

Reuters

Western sanctions, pressure cannot harm Iran: DM

TEHERAN, 21 Sept—Iranian Defence Minister Brigadier General Ahmad Vahidi downplayed the West's attempts to isolate Iran through sanctions and pressure, stressing that it will never be able to inflict any harm to the Iranian nation, semi-official *Fars* news agency reported on Thursday. Enemies of Iran were to harm the nation by imposing sanctions, threats of military operations and psychological warfare, Vahidi said, adding that all those attempts were "uselessly" to isolate the Islamic republic.

Enemies would never be able to cause any harm to the Iranian nation, Vahidi was quoted as saying.

He also said that Iran has enhanced its defensive military capabilities to an extent that can "obliterate the Israeli regime," *Press TV* reported.

"The defence capability of Iran against threats by the Zionist regime (of Israel) has been developed to an extent that will wipe the (Israeli) regime off the scene," the report quoted Vahidi as saying.—Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



The space shuttle Endeavour, atop NASA's Shuttle Carrier Aircraft, flies over Houston, Texas in this 19 September, 2012 NASA handout photo.—REUTERS

Space shuttle Endeavour lands piggyback in California

Science

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, 21 Sept— The space shuttle Endeavour, carried piggyback atop a jumbo jet, landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Thursday at the tail end of a cross-country trip to Los Angeles to begin its final mission as a museum exhibit. The specially modified Boeing 747 with the newly retired spaceship perched on its back touched down safely at 12:50pm local time (3:50pm EDT) at Edwards, about 100 miles north of Los Angeles in the Mojave Desert. NASA retired its shuttle fleet last year after completing the US portion of the \$100 billion International Space Station, a permanently staffed research complex that is owned by 15 nations and orbits about 250 miles above Earth. Endeavour embarked on

its last cross-county "ferry" journey on Wednesday from Cape Canaveral, Florida, and made several low-altitude passes over NASA centres in Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas before stopping for the night at Ellington Field near the Johnson Space Centre in Houston. The trip resumed early on Thursday, with Endeavour and its carrier jet making additional flyovers - one over Tucson, Arizona, in a salute to former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and her husband, Mark Kelly, the retired astronaut who commanded Endeavour's final flight on his last mission in late May 2011. Giffords, still recuperating from a gunshot wound to the head suffered in an attempt on her life last year, watched the flyover from the roof of a Tucson parking garage with

her husband and mother, according to former aide CJ Karamargin, who joined them. "When it came into view, Mark said, 'There's my spaceship!'" Karamargin recounted. "Gabby was just elated, hooting and hollering like the rest of us were." From Arizona, Endeavour and its carrier jet flew on to California, where the spacecraft was built two decades ago, for the landing at Edwards Air Force Base. The sprawling installation used to serve as the primary landing site for NASA's shuttle programme before the space agency built a landing facility for the orbiters at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. Edwards then became the principal backup landing spot for shuttles in case of bad weather at Cape Canaveral. Reuters

Apple still draws crowds in Asia with new iPhone 5

Tech

SYDNEY, 21 Sept—Apple Inc's iPhone 5 hit stores around the globe on Friday, giving the consumer giant a boost ahead of the crucial end-of-year holiday season as rival Samsung Electronics Co stepped up its legal challenge over key technologies. The new phone, which was unveiled last week, went on sale across Asia with mobile carriers reporting record demand, leading at least one to question Apple's supply capacity. "It's thin and light. I've used Samsung before, but the operation, the feeling, of the iPhone is better," said Wataru Saito, a semiconductor engineer who had been queuing in Tokyo since mid-afternoon on Thursday with his suitcase, as he had a flight to catch on Friday. Apple has booked more than 2 million pre-orders for the device in the first 24 hours, double the first-day sales of the previous iPhone 4S. Masayoshi Son, president of Softbank Corp, one of the two Japanese carriers selling the phone, said he was concerned that Apple does

not have enough production capacity to meet demand. Softbank and Singtel, Singapore's biggest mobile phone operator, said demand for the iPhone 5 had exceeded previous offerings from Apple, partly because the new phones could work on 4G networks that offered much faster data speeds. KDDI Corp, the other Japanese carrier offering the iPhone, said that it had already

run out of the new phone. Australia's Telstra Corp Ltd reported online pre-orders sold out in a record 18 hours and said it was discussing bi-weekly restocking with Apple. Apple's rival and component supplier, Samsung, moved to crash the party on the eve of the phone's debut, saying it planned to add the new device to existing patent lawsuits against its US rival.



People queue outside an Apple store as they wait to buy an iPhone 5, in central Sydney on 21 Sept, 2012. REUTERS

Google shuts once-feted China music download service

Tech

SHANGHAI, 21 Sept— Google Inc said on Friday it will shut its once-popular China music download service next month, in a sign of how far the fortunes of the world's biggest search engine have fallen in China. Launched in 2009 with a local partner, the Google Music Search was meant to be a legal music search competitor to Baidu Inc's popular music service, which at the time was providing users with links to copyright-infringing music. But in early 2010, Google announced it would no longer be willing to comply with Chinese laws and censor searches in the world's largest Internet market. As a result, the firm moved its Chinese site to Hong Kong and saw its overall search-market share dwindle. Since then, Baidu's overall share continued to grow and last year, Baidu launched a legal music search in a landmark deal with record labels. "We have decided to shut down our Google Music Search service in China... This is part of an ongoing effort across Google to bring greater focus to our portfolio of

products," said a Google spokesman in an emailed statement. Google Music Search users will be able to use and download their stored playlists until the service closes on 19 October, Google said. "The impact of this product was not as high as we expected, so we decided to divert our resources to other products," Yang Wenluo, Google China's engineering research general manager, wrote on Google China's blog. (here) Google's products, such as Maps, search and Gmail, sometimes face accessibility issues in China. In June this year, Google launched a feature that would alert Chinese users searching on its Hong Kong site of words that were blocked. China has over half a billion Internet users but operates in a closed ecosystem where Chinese Internet companies have to comply with local laws and censor topics deemed sensitive by the government. Facebook Inc, Twitter and YouTube are blocked in China.—Reuters



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

Study on Monsanto GM corn concerns draws skepticism

Science

LONDON, 21 Sept—In a study that prompted sharp criticism from other experts, French scientists said on Wednesday that rats fed on Monsanto's genetically modified corn or exposed to its top-selling weedkiller suffered tumors and multiple organ damage. The French government asked the country's health watchdog to investigate the findings further, although a number of scientists questioned the study's basic methods and Monsanto said it felt confident its products had been proven safe. Gilles-Eric Seralini of the University of Caen and colleagues said rats fed on a diet containing NK603 — a seed variety made tolerant to dousings of Monsanto's Roundup weedkiller — or given water with Roundup at levels permitted in the United States, died earlier than those on a standard diet. Experts not involved in the study were skeptical, with one accusing the French scientists of going on a "statistical fishing trip" and others describing its methods as well below standard. The animals on the genetically modified (GM) diet suffered mammary tumors, as well as severe liver and kidney damage, according to the peer-

reviewed study which was published in the journal Food and Chemical Toxicology and presented at a news conference in London. The researchers said 50 percent of male and 70 percent of female rats died prematurely, compared with only 30 percent and 20 percent in the control group. Monsanto spokesman Thomas Helscher said the company would review the study thoroughly. However, he added: "Numerous peer-reviewed scientific studies performed on biotech crops to date, including more than a hundred feeding studies, have continuously confirmed their safety, as reflected in the respective safety assessments by regulatory authorities around the world."—Reuters



Researcher Gilles-Eric Seralini of the University of Caen speaks at a news conference at the European Parliament in Brussels on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

European shares, euro claw back up after sell-off

Business

Chery gets regulatory nod for Jaguar Land Rover JV



Traders are pictured at their desks in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 20 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS
LONDON, 21 Sept—European shares and the euro clawed themselves back up on Friday and oil also rebounded from a 1-1/2 month low, as investors moved back into markets still feeling the benefits of support measures from central banks.

Having ended three of the last four sessions in the red, the FTSEurofirst 300 .FTEU3 rose 0.4 percent when equities trading resumed in Europe. Helped on by the expiry of options contracts, London's FTSE 100 .FTSE, Paris's CAC-40 .FCHI and Frankfurt's DAX .GDAXI

opened between 0.3 and 0.6 percent higher after Australian, Japanese and Hong Kong markets all rose. L.EU.N

"Volatility has been crushed recently and optimism increased dramatically, as has the market," said Lex van Dam, hedge fund manager at Hampstead Capital, which manages around \$500 million of assets.

"The main thing to look at today is if the market can actually sustain these levels after expiry (of options) as well. That will tell us a lot."

Helping the mood was a

report in the *Financial Times* that Spain was working behind the scenes on a rescue program which in turn will allow the ECB to begin potentially unlimited purchases of Madrid's bonds.

The euro, which has lost around 1.5 percent since hitting a 4-1/2 month high a week ago, was up 0.2 percent at \$1.2987 when European trading got under way at 0700 GMT.

Safe-haven currencies such as the dollar and the yen were slightly pressured, with the yen broadly flat against the dollar at 78.14 yen. The Australian dollar, which is often used to gauge risk sentiment, gained 0.4 percent to \$1.0478.

In bond markets, the appetite for risk continued its cautious recovery despite Italy's government warning the country's recession would be far worse than feared ID:nL5E8KKL99].

December Bund futures were 45 basis points lower at 139.76 while Spain and Italy's 10-year bond yields dropped slightly.

Reuters

BEIJING, 21 Sept—Jaguar Land Rover and Chery Automobile Co Ltd CHERY.UL have won regulatory approval to form a 12.1 billion yuan car venture in China, the Chinese automaker said on Friday.

The deal would help raise the profile of Chery, a mass volume player aspiring to gain access to the lucrative upscale segment dominated by foreign brands.

It also marks Jaguar Land Rover's latest effort to expand its appeal in the world's largest auto market, where luxury sedans and SUVs remain in hot demand even

The Range Rover is seen at the Jaguar-Land Rover exhibition booth during the International Motor Show (IAA) in Frankfurt, on 14 September, 2011.

REUTERS

as the overall car market cools.

When asked to confirm a local media report that the project had won approval from the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), a Chery spokesman said: "We heard the project has been approved, but we have yet to receive the official notice from NDRC."

The Chery-JLR venture will be based in Changshu city near Shanghai with an annual capacity of 130,000 cars. The partners will make Land Rover SUVs initially, followed by Jaguars in the second phase.

Earlier in the year, JLR and Chery received the green light for the venture from China's environment ministry.

JLR, controlled by Tata Motors Ltd (TAMO.NS), had previously explored joint venture deals with other Chinese partners, including Great Wall Motor Co Ltd (601633.SS) (2333.HK), but made little headway.

The Chery tie will give JLR a local production base in China, where global luxury markers including BMW BMW.DE, Mercedes-Benz and Audi are tapping into the growing ranks of wealthy Chinese.—Reuters



West Nile virus kills five in Balkans, dozens in hospital

Health

PRISTINA, 21 Sept—At least five people in the Balkans have died from West Nile virus and several dozen others have been hospitalized in the past few weeks, according to health authorities in Serbia, Kosovo, Macedonia and Croatia.

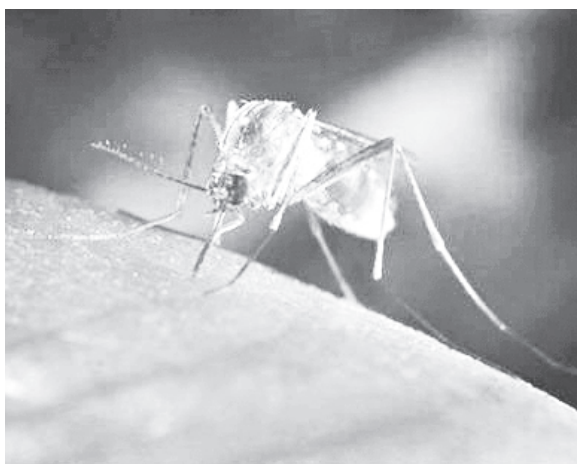
West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne disease usually found in temperate and tropical regions. While many cases are mild and have no symptoms, severe disease symptoms can include headaches, high fever, neck stiffness, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness and paralysis. Kosovo confirmed its first fatality on Wednesday, saying the victim was a woman from central Kosovo who died on 14 Sept. Macedonia's health officials said on Thursday one woman had died and two other people were infected with the virus.

A spokesman for the Kosovo Health Ministry told Reuters on Thursday two other people who died recently were also suspected of having the same virus, but the cases had not been confirmed with laboratory blood tests.

The United States is currently experiencing one of its worst outbreaks of West Nile virus since 2003.

In Serbia, three people have died and 35 were hospitalized since mid-August. "This is the first time the West Nile virus has been officially registered in Serbia," the country's Department for Public Health said in a statement.

All the infected people were over 50 and had other chronic diseases, it said. Serbia's western neighbour Croatia has registered five probable cases of the virus but no deaths.—Reuters



A *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquito is shown on a human finger in this undated handout photograph from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

REUTERS

US electric car policy to cost \$7.5 billion by 2019: CBO

Business

DETROIT, 21 Sept—US federal policies to promote electric vehicles will cost \$7.5 billion through 2019 and have "little to no impact" on overall national gasoline consumption over the next several years, the Congressional Budget

initiatives were initiated in 2009 under President Barack Obama, but the loan programme was authorized in 2007 under the Bush administration.

Producing all-electric cars and plug-in hybrids is part of the auto

help boost the average fuel economy of automakers' fleets, the CBO said. The federal tax credits apply to the first 200,000 electric vehicles sold by each manufacturer. But these sales will leave room for automakers to continue to sell models with low fuel economy, the CBO said.

"The more electric and other high-fuel-economy vehicles that are sold because of the tax credits, the more low-fuel-economy vehicles that automakers can sell and still meet the standards," according to the report. As a result, tax credits will have "little or no impact on the total gasoline use and greenhouse gas emissions of the nation's vehicle fleet over the next several years."

In the study, the CBO looked at the tax credits and other federal policies for plug-in hybrid vehicles like the General Motors Co (GMN) Chevrolet Volt and fully battery-electric vehicles like the Nissan Motor Co (7201.T) Leaf. The CBO said it compared similar-sized electric and gas-powered vehicles with average fuel economy ratings.

"General Motors is committed to technological innovations like the Chevy Volt and to help our customers use little or no gas and save money and the pump," said Heather Rosenker, GM spokeswoman in Washington.

"We'll keep our eyes on designing and building cars and defer the policy debate to the policy makers," she said.—Reuters



Nissan Leaf electric cars are being charged before the start of an electric car rally from Tallinn to Monte-Carlo in Tallinn on 1 June, 2012.—REUTERS

Office said in a report issued on Thursday. Consumer tax credits for buying electric vehicles, which can run as high as \$7,500 per vehicle, will account for about 25 percent of the \$7.5 billion cost, the CBO said.

The rest of the cost comprises of \$2.4 billion in grants to battery makers and projects to promote electric vehicles as well as \$3.1 billion in loans to auto companies designed to spur production of fuel-efficient vehicles. Many of these

industry's solution to reach increasingly stringent fuel economy standards designed to cut emissions and lessen the United States' dependence on oil. US government standards mandate that by 2025, automakers to show corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) of 54.5 miles per gallon or about 39 miles per gallon in real world driving.

The tax credits will increase sales of EVs, hybrids and more fuel-efficient gas-powered models and

WORLD

Nigerian governors to block oil wealth fund in court



Nigeria's Finance Minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala speaks during an interview with Reuters in her office in the capital Abuja on 24 August, 2012. —REUTERS

ABUJA, 21 Sept— Nigeria's state governors vowed on Thursday to go to court to stop the government putting oil revenues into a sovereign wealth fund.

Africa's top crude producer has been moving closer to joining its OPEC partners in creating a sovereign wealth fund for long-term investment of its oil cash. The governors, who enjoy luxurious lifestyles and wield huge patronage, had been opposed to the fund

because they feared it would reduce their share of the oil money.

The country pumps over two million barrels of oil a day but economists say revenue over the decades has been wasted on bloated government wages, a vast patronage network that gets costlier closer to election time, or plain embezzlement.

The sovereign wealth fund aims to tie up a portion of the oil cash in a government-run investment portfolio,

Nigeria

buying anything from mainstream assets such as stocks and bonds to direct foreign investment. Nigeria is one of only three OPEC members that does not have such a fund.

Nigeria's oil earnings over a benchmark price are currently paid into the Excess Crude Account (ECA), which is meant to be for the benefit of future generations or cushion against oil price shocks. But there is little oversight of it and it is often raided even when oil prices are high. It now contains around \$8 billion and is distributed between the three tiers of government, including the 36 states.

Last year, the governors went to court to try to block the fund's creation, arguing it was unconstitutional for the federal government to control all excess oil funds, instead of distributing them. The 36 governors have said they do not trust central authorities to manage the fund.—Reuters

Merkel turns to ex-mentor Kohl to sell Europe to Germans

BERLIN, 20 Sept— Angela Merkel is seeking help from her estranged, former mentor Helmut Kohl, architect of the euro, to restore voter faith in the European project before next year's election.

Realising her own future is tied to that of the EU, Merkel has in the last month softened her rhetoric towards the most indebted euro zone states. Next week she will make a rare joint appearance with former Christian Democrat (CDU) chancellor Kohl.

The German leader's tough approach to the euro debt crisis has boosted her popularity in the last two years and polls show she is in a strong position to win the September 2013 vote.

But she needs to ensure traditional conservatives in her own party maintain discipline in the run-up to the vote after some were angered by her defence of European Central Bank



German Chancellor Angela Merkel delivers a speech at a presentation on a stereo music system during a reception of medallists of the Youth Researchers (Jugend Forscht) competition at the Chancellery in Berlin on 20 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

President Mario Draghi's bond—buying plan for stricken euro states—a scheme the German Bundesbank opposes.

Merkel must also convince the broader electorate of the need for closer EU integration, seen as crucial to the currency's long-term survival. A poll this week showed almost two thirds of Germans would prefer to live without the euro

and 49 percent without the EU. Getting the 82-year-old Kohl, Germany's longest serving chancellor, on board is something of a coup for Merkel.

The statesman is known to bear a grudge against Merkel for turning on him in 1999 over a party funding scandal that tainted his image, and has voiced veiled criticism of her handling of the crisis.

Venezuela refinery fire under control

CARACAS, 20 Sept— The fire possibly sparked by lightning in a Venezuelan oil refinery has been brought under control before it seriously affects operations, Oil and Mining Minister Rafael Ramirez said on Thursday. The fire hit two fuel tanks at the El Palito processing plant of the state-owned PDVSA oil company during a strong thunderstorm late Wednesday, said Ramirez.

Ramirez told national TV channel Venezolana de Television that officials believe lightning hit the two tanks and sparked the fire, adding that the incident did not pose a risk to the

surrounding community.

Rafael Lacava, mayor of Puerto Cabello, said the storm was "one of the worst in the past 30 years." He added PDVSA and Puerto Cabello firefighters, helped by volunteers, responded quickly to put out the fire. "Fortunately, we have nothing to regret," he said, "the town of Puerto Cabello is now tranquil."

No victims have been reported at the refinery in Puerto Cabello, one of the most important cities in central Venezuela. The rest of the refinery was operating as usual, said PDVSA's Vice President of Refining, Trade

and Supply Asdrubal Chavez.

"We are processing 135,000 barrels a day of crude oil, which is the normal capacity. All the processing plants are operating normally," said Chavez.

Located along the coast of central Carabobo state and operating since 1960, El Palito is one of Venezuela's six largest processing plants, with a processing capacity of 140,000 barrels of crude a day, and supplies fuel and other oil products to the central and western regions of the country via a network of pipelines.

This is the second oil refinery fire within a month in Venezuela.—Xinhua

US "surge" troops out of Afghanistan —US official

US

AUCKLAND, 21 Sept— The last of the 33,000 "surge" troops ordered into Afghanistan by President Barack Obama in 2009 have withdrawn from the country, returning the American presence to pre-surge levels, a senior US defence official said on Friday.

The surge in American troops was designed to push back the Taliban and create space for NATO forces to build the Afghan army to a point where it could take over Afghanistan's security, allowing for an eventual Western drawdown.

The completion of the surge withdrawal had been expected by the end of September. Obama has

trumpeted ending the war in Iraq and winding down the war in Afghanistan as he seeks re-election on 6 November.

The return of US forces to pre-surge levels comes as NATO commanders wrestle with an upswing in "insider attacks" by Afghan forces turning their guns on Western troops.

Reuters

14 dead, more injured in Mogadishu bar suicide attack

MOGADISHU, 20 Sept— At least 14 people were killed including three journalists and a number of Somali government officials and many others injured in two suicide attacks on a bar on Thursday in the Somali capital Mogadishu, officials and witnesses said.

"So far we know that 14 people are dead and many more are injured. We are working to help get the injured to the hospital. The number can increase," Mohamed Harun, a police officer at the site of the explosion, told reporters.

Witnesses said two suicide bombers came to the site with one armed with a gun and sprayed bullets at the customers at the Village Cafe before detonating his explosives. Another detonated his explosives in another part of the Cafe.

The bar in the Hamarweyne district is frequented by Somali government officials and journalists. The three slain journalists include Liban Ali Nur, a prominent figure with Somalia's National Television and Radio Mogadishu. Seven more were injured in the blast at the heart of Somali capital. This is the second attack since new President Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud was elected on 10 Sept. So far no group has claimed responsibility for the blast, which is similar to many by Al-Shabaab rebels against government targets.

Mogadishu has been relatively stable since Al-Shabaab was forced to pull out in August 2011 in the aftermath of major offensives by African Union peacekeeping troops and Somali government forces. The Al-Qaeda affiliated radical group has launched a series of suicide attacks in the capital Mogadishu even since.—Xinhua



The debris of the bar is seen after suicide attacks in Mogadishu, Somalia, on 20 Sept, 2012. —XINHUA

Russia sees lack of progress in missile talks with NATO

Russia

MOSCOW, 21 Sept— Moscow and NATO have made little progress in missile defence talks, Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko said on Thursday.

"Unfortunately, currently there is no real advancement. Moreover, NATO has announced the initial readiness of the missile defence shield. That means we effectively face the 'fait accompli' policy," Grushko told Interfax news agency during an interview. Despite the lack of progress, Grushko said, Moscow has not closed the window for talks with NATO about its European missile shield.

During the 2010 NATO summit in Lisbon, Portugal, the

leaders vowed to develop a NATO missile defence system in Europe, with Russia invited to cooperate as part of a broader "reset" of its relations with the alliance. "Implementation of that project could actually change the very essence of relations between Russia and NATO," Grushko said.

The missile issue will be a key topic during an upcoming meeting between Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, Grushko said.

Xinhua

WORLD

Ryanair planes had enough fuel—Irish watchdog

DUBLIN, 21 Sept—Three Ryanair aircraft that made emergency landings in Spain in July were carrying more than the required level of fuel, but the company should still review its policy, the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) said on Thursday.

The recommendation came after Irish and Spanish aviation officials met in Dublin this week following comments by Spanish authorities about incidents in their airspace involving Europe's largest budget airline.

Spain has called for tighter safety regimes at low-cost airlines, while Ryanair has accused the Spanish aviation authorities of falsifying information on incidents involving its planes, an accusation

Extra police to patrol Sydney streets this weekend

SYDNEY, 21 Sept—Extra police will be on patrol in Sydney central business district (CBD) this weekend as a precaution following Saturday's violent protests in the city, New South Wales Assistant Police Commissioner Alan Clarke said on Friday.

Clarke told the radio networks of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC Radio) that police so far have not seen any indications that the violent protests will be repeated.

"Operation Waterman has been put together this weekend — basically Saturday and Sunday — to put a heightened police presence into the CBD of Sydney," he said.

"It will involve up to 300 extra police with a broad range of capability — mainly public order — but I must really stress that at this point in time we are not anticipating trouble and we just encourage people to get on with their very enjoyable weekend."

US citizens have been warned by their consulate to be alert to possible anti-American protests in Sydney and Melbourne this weekend, according to ABC reports.

Clarke said police were prepared for any potential riots.

Xinhua

Spanish officials have rejected.

In a preliminary report made public by Ryanair, the IAA found that the three planes that departed for Madrid were carrying fuel in excess of requirements. Having to divert to Valencia with fuel close to the minimum diversion level likely presented challenges to the crew.

It recommended that Ryanair review its fuel policy and consider issuing guidance to crew with respect to fuel when flying into busy airports, particularly in poor weather

Top emitter China agrees to work with EU to cut carbon

BRUSSELS, 21 Sept—China, the world's biggest carbon dioxide emitter, has struck a deal to work with the European Union to cut greenhouse gases through projects including the development of Chinese emissions trading schemes, the European Commission said on Thursday.

The European Union and China have frequently clashed over climate policy and Beijing has flouted EU law requiring all airlines using European airports to pay for their emissions through the

Committee tells G4S to waive \$92 million fee for Olympic failure

LONDON, 21 Sept—G4S's bill for its embarrassing London Olympic staffing failure could rise after a government committee demanded the embattled security firm waive its management fee and compensate Games staff neglected in its chaotic recruitment drive.

The world's biggest security firm has been under fire since admitting just two weeks before the Games began that it could not provide a promised 10,400 venue guards, embarrassing the government — a key customer — and forcing



A visitor to the Olympic Park reads a G4S notice stuck to a window at the Aquatics centre, in the Olympic Park, in Stratford, east London, on 17 July, 2012.—REUTERS



A Ryanair plane is seen parked through a fence at Girona airport, on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

conditions when diversions were likely.

The IAA also advised the Spanish aviation authority to review delays into Madrid and whether it should recommend that additional fuel be carried during normal operations.

Ryanair said the report

disproved claims in Spanish media that its aircraft carried less than minimum fuel and were in breach of EU regulations.

Irish and Spanish authorities are also investigating two other incidents involving diverted Ryanair flights.—Reuters

cut carbon

EU

EU's Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). At the same time, the two sides have maintained an uneasy dialogue, including an EU-China summit in Brussels this week. EU Development Commissioner Andris Piebalgs and Chen Deming, the Chinese commerce minister, signed a financing deal promoting the transition "towards a low-carbon economy and a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in China", the Commission said in a statement.

The Commission wants

partnerships with other emissions schemes as part of efforts to boost its own ETS, on which the price of carbon has sunk far below the levels required to spur green investments.

Last month, it agreed to link its ETS with Australia's scheme by 2018. EU Climate Commissioner Connie Hedegaard said on Thursday the Chinese financing deal was "an important step for an ever closer cooperation towards a robust international carbon market".

Reuters

London

responsibility for the failure was with G4S and that its most senior personnel should be held accountable for making misleading staffing assurances so close to the start of the Games.

"Far from being able to stage two Games on two continents at the same time, as they recklessly boasted, G4S could not even stage one," said Keith Vaz, Chairman of the influential Home Affairs Committee, referring to an interview managing director of G4S Global Events, Ian Horseman Sewell, gave to Reuters in July.

"G4S should waive its 57 million pound management fee and also compensate its staff and prospective staff who it treated in a cavalier fashion."

LOCOG has so far parted with only 90 million pounds of the 237 million pound contract and earlier this month insisted the remainder would have to be negotiated.

Reuters

News Corp to give James Murdoch more control of US TV operations

US

NEW YORK, 21 Sept—James Murdoch will be given more responsibility over News Corp's US television operations more than a year after he became a central figure in the company's telephone hacking scandal in the UK, two sources familiar with the matter said.

News of the promotion comes on the heels of a ruling earlier on Thursday by a UK regulator that appears to have cleared pay-TV company BSkyB of any connection to the scandal that tainted News Corp last year.

The 39-year-old son of News Corp chairman Rupert Murdoch will be given a larger, more operational role in the Fox Networks Group, which oversees Fox's broadcast network and its cable channels that include FX, National Geographic and Fox sports channels, according to two people with knowledge of the move.

The Fox News channel will continue to report to Roger Ailes, who also oversees the Fox Business channel and Fox's local TV stations.



News Corp Deputy Chief Operating Officer James Murdoch attends the Allen & Co Media Conference in Sun Valley, Idaho on 12 July, 2012. REUTERS

The sources did not know what Murdoch's exact title would be because the details were still being hashed out. It is expected that Peter Rice, who was promoted in July to chairman and chief executive of Fox Networks Group, will remain in his role. *The Financial Times*, which was the first outlet to report the news, said Rice would report to Murdoch.

Murdoch, currently Deputy Chief Operating Officer at News Corp, had been attending strategy meetings for the cable networks in Los Angeles for months, said one person with knowledge of the meetings, although he continued to live in New York City. A Fox spokeswoman declined to comment. The younger Murdoch's promotion was delayed for months while UK regulator Office of Communications, known as Ofcom, investigated whether News Corp was an appropriate owner of BSkyB and whether Murdoch was an appropriate director. It ruled on 20 September that News Corp's 39 percent owned British Sky Broadcasting satellite operation was "fit and proper" to continue to hold a broadcast license.—Reuters

Some 42,000 Americans die from secondhand smoke annually: study

US

WASHINGTON, 21 Sept—Secondhand smoke is to blame for some 42,000 nonsmoker deaths annually in the United States, including nearly 900 infant deaths, according to a new University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) study.

Altogether, annual deaths from secondhand smoke represent nearly 600,000 years of potential life lost — an average of 14.2 years per person — and 6.6 billion US dollars in lost productivity, amounting to 158,000 dollars per death, the researchers say.

The new research, published on Thursday in the *American Journal of Public Health*, reveals that despite public health efforts to reduce tobacco use, secondhand smoke continues to take a grievous toll on nonsmokers.

"In general, fewer people are smoking and many have made lifestyle changes, but our research shows that the impacts of secondhand smoke are nonetheless very large," said lead author Wendy Max, a professor of health economics at the UCSF School of Nursing.

Exposure to secondhand smoke is linked to a number of fatal illnesses including heart and lung disease, as well as conditions affecting newborns such as low birth weight and respiratory distress syndrome.—Xinhua

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 22 September, 2012

Dove for earth

Things get dirt when used long, otherwise there would not be such products like soap or washing powder. There have emerged many a brand of cosmetics nowadays to cleanse and repair our body. But, what about the dirt on our mind which piles up more and more as the time passes by? Is there any detergent to wipe it out from our mind?

Neither optimistic nor pessimistic humans are by nature with some exception. Generally, guilt and a sense of common humanity make people less cruel and kindness and sympathy have not yet run out of our heart. Otherwise, the world would now be covered in ashes.

Millions of people were killed in the previous two world wars, but still millions of dollars are spent on production of weapons of mass destruction. Isn't it ridiculous to mix the humanity with lethality? The better the weapon system the global nations develop, the less they feel secure.

On the International Day of Peace, the United Nations called for a complete cessation of hostilities around the world. But, what about the hostility in our mind which never seems to satisfy whatever it is fed? Isn't it the root cause of hostilities around the world? Without a peace of mind, man-induced hostilities would never be ceased.

Many different things we encounter in our everyday life, some leave us with a smile, some leave us with a cry. Many different people we encounter throughout our life, sometimes we learn something, sometimes we loss something. Do we need to kill others to protect ourselves?



Paw Lwin Kyaw

Cash donated for people of Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—Officials of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement accepted US\$ 2,000 donated by the Centre for Management Technology (CMT) Yangon for the people in Rakhine State on 17 September.

Next, they presented a certificate of honour to CMT. MNA

NATIONAL



President U Thein Sein and Vice-President Mr Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China look round 9th China-ASEAN Expo. MNA

President U Thein Sein...

(from page 1)

President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, "the Country of Honour".

President U Thein Sein in his opening address said that much progress has been made in the relations between the ASEAN nations and China in a period of over 30 years since 1991, adding the 9th China-ASEAN Expo plays a crucial role in the implementing of ASEAN-China Free Trade Area.

Moreover, the President expressed his kind request for the host to invest in the science and technology sector in Yataon being regarded as a pleasant town of Myanmar.

The China-ASEAN Expo has been held in Nanning since 2004 with the aim of enabling peoples of China and the ASEAN to enjoy the fruits of trade.

At the 9th China-ASEAN Expo, the booth of Myanmar has been extended three times and a variety of Myanmar products are put on display there.

MNA

Photo shows 9th China-ASEAN Expo opening ceremony in progress in Nanning of China. MNA



Chairman of UCSB visits Institutional and Human Resources Development of Public Sector

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—After paying a good will and study visit on Institutional and Human Resource Development of the Public Sector of Thailand from 16 to 20 September 2012, at the invitation of H.E Pisanu Suvanajata, the Ambassador of Royal Thai Embassy of Myanmar, the Myanmar delegation led by U Kyaw Thu, Chairman of the Union Civil Services Board (UCSB), arrived back here by air this evening.

On the morning of 17 September 2012, Chairman

U Kyaw Thu and Myanmar delegation paid a visit and call on Secretary-General of Public Sector Development Commission. During the visit, the Chairman held cordial and wide ranging discussions on Re-constructing and Development of the Public Sector in Thailand. In the afternoon, the Chairman and party visited the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs where the Chairman met with authorities of

Institute of Foreign Affairs and discussed matters on Human Resources Development in Thailand. On the morning of 18 September 2012, the Myanmar delegation paid a visit and call on Secretary-General of Civil Service Commission. During the meeting, Chairman U Kyaw Thu held cordial and wide ranging discussions on Management and Development of the Thai Civil Service.

On the morning of 19 September 2012, the

Chairman and Myanmar delegation visited the Thailand Development Research Institute and held discussions with authorities on matters concerning the Role and Concept of Development-Oriented Researches in Thailand. In the afternoon, the Chairman and party visited the Department of Provincial Administration of Ministry of Interior. During the visit, the Chairman discussed with the authorities of Ministry of Interior on matters related to Human Resources Development in Thailand.

MNA

NATIONAL

News in Brief

Development of cooperative discussed

Deputy Minister for Cooperatives U Than Tun instructed heads of township Cooperative Departments, staff, chairmen and members of Township Cooperative Syndicates and officials from Pantanaw, Kyaunggon and Kangyidaunt townships to come out cooperative societies in all villages and alleviate poverty on 19 September.

Outreach Prosthetic Programme commences

The Outreach Prosthetic Programme (OPP) course was opened at the city hall in Monywa on 18 September. Mr Takanori Hosojawa of ICDC explained the purpose of the physical rehabilitation plans, local projects and purpose of the training.

Home & Living Products Expo kicks off

Sweet Home & Living Products Expo 2012 kicked off at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township on 20 September. The expo comprises 145 booths of 10 companies up to 23 September.

Land survey course conducted

The Advanced Land Survey and Modern Land Survey Course No. 17/2012 was conducted at Central Land Survey Training School in Taikkyi Township on 3 September. Altogether 90 trainees are attending the course that lasts from 3 September to 31 March.

Vocation training course provided to trainees

The basic domestic science course 21/2012 and advanced tailoring course 17/2012 were opened at Women's Vocational Training School in Pauk on 27 August. Altogether 25 trainees are attending the basic domestic science course and 10 at advanced tailoring course.

Paddy seeds provided for flooded farmlands

The donation for 2337.5 baskets of paddy seeds donated by wellwishers for flooded farmlands was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 11 September. The local authorities presented paddy seeds to farmers from 38 wards and villages in Hlegu Township.

Illegal sawn timber seized in Hsihseng

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is placing emphasis on existence for conservation of forest resources, wildlife, bio-diversities and environments while joining hands with the local people for taking action against those who illegally extract timbers.

A six staff member team led by the staff officer of Hsihseng Township Forest Department of Taunggyi District seized two vehicles carrying illegal sawn timbers on Hsihseng-Loikaw Road near Takhawkhun Village at 1 pm on 17 September. The authorities seized driver U Nyi Nyi Lwin of Kyithaya Ward in Loikaw and U Tun Aye of Dawnawku Ward in Loikaw together with the vehicle with number plate 5A/6650 carrying 131 pieces of sawn teak timbers weighing 7.7300 tons and driver U Chit Ko Ko and U Kyaw Htoo of Kyithaya Ward of Loikaw together with the vehicles with number plate 2B/1412 carrying 98 pieces of sawn teak timber weighing 4.6540 tons.

Hsihseng Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against four persons under Section 6(1) of the Public Property Protection Act and Section 3 of Public Utilities Protection Act.—MNA

Myanmar Armed Forces, Chinese PLA to cooperate in military technology



General Soe Win and Deputy Head of State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry of National Defence (SASTIND) Mr Wang Yiren and party pose for documentary photo.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win received a delegation led by Deputy Head of State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry of National Defence (SASTIND) Mr Wang Yiren of People's Republic of China at Zeyathiri Beikman here this noon.

Present on the occasion were Chief of the General

Staff (Army, Navy, Air) General Hla Htay Win, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe and Lt-Gen Thein Htay from the Commander-in-Chief's Office, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Chinese Military Attaché to Myanmar Sr Col Xiong Shaowei.

They had a frank discussion on military technological cooperation between the two armed forces. They exchanged gifts after the meeting.—MNA

Myanmar Accountancy Council's meeting 2/2012 held

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—The meeting (2/2012) of Myanmar Accountancy Council was launched at its office in Yangon this morning, in the presence of Chairman of Myanmar Accountancy Council Auditor-General of the Union U Thein Htaik, Vice-Chairman of MAC Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint and the council members.

On the occasion, the Union Auditor-General made a speech citing that statisticians need to involve doing reforms in economy, financial and monetary sectors in accord with reforming process of governance of the State. He assured that any licensed

statisticians will run their business in their respective country of ASEAN member States in the year 2015 when accountancy service of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) will be favoured. All statisticians in the country should be the perfect ones who have abilities to overcome that challenge. In the other hand, Myanmar Accountancy Council continues doing its reform process. Besides, all the council members are duty bound to advance the council's reform process as much as they can, he added.

Afterwards, the vice-chairman of MAC, chairman of MCPA and members participated in the discussion.—MNA

Hotel services courses in Bagan concluded

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—A concluding ceremony of four courses on hotel services was held at Ayeyar Hotel in Bagan-NyaungU region this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung.

His speech cited that hotels and tourism industry has increased with 44 per cent that year than the previous year. Among scenic spots in Myanmar, Bagan-NyaungU region is the heart of tourists. As the tourism industry increases, hotels' services need to be kept efficient. That is why the hotel services courses are being launched. Such courses had been launched in Bagan two times, three

times in Nay Pyi Taw and one time in Taunggyi and Dawei each. To open such courses in Mandalay and PyinOoLwin is on schedule.

The Union Minister then presented prizes to outstanding trainees of the courses. Managing Director of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services presented gifts to the course instructors and completion certificates through a trainee.

The four five-week courses were taken by a total of 227 trainees.

The Union Minister met Bagan Hotel Zone Entrepreneurs and staff pointing out necessary tasks for development of Bagan region.

MNA

District News

Car driven by bus conductor hits 12-wheeled vehicle



PYINMANA, 21 Sept—A Charm Truck driven by Myint Maung, 53, son of U Maung Maung from Chauk running from Thawutthi Village of Lewe Township on the correct way of road was collided with a Nissan driven by bus conductor Zaw Oo, 26, son of U Aung Htwe of Ward 16 in Myingyan running from Pyinmana Bawgathiri Bus Terminal between mile posts 0/4 and 0/5 on detour of Yathedaung Village in Lewe Township at 6.15 am on 18 September.

In the incident, heads of two vehicles were crushed. Bus conductor Zaw Win Khaing, 32 of Singu Village of Chauk Township from Charm Truck was injured at left part of the face. He is being warded at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed).

Thawutthi Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against the traffic accident.

Myanma Alin

WORLD

Russia cuts Kyrgyz debt for military, power deals

Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK, 21 Sept— Russia agreed on Thursday to write off nearly \$500 million in debt due from Kyrgyzstan in exchange for a package of deals that will extend Moscow's military and energy footprints on the volatile fringes of the former Soviet Union.

As Kyrgyzstan confirmed plans to close a US base used to fly troops in and out of Afghanistan after Washington's lease expires in 2014, President Vladimir Putin secured a 15-year extension to Russia's lease on its own base in the country.

The deals, which will see Russian companies build hydro power plants allowing them to mediate between conflicting interests over water use, reinforce the Kremlin's influence in Central Asia as the region guards against the possible

spillover of Islamist militancy from Afghanistan.

"A Russian military presence both in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan is a significant factor in stability," Putin said, invoking old Soviet ties in a joint news conference with Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambayev.

Thursday's agreement also offered further evidence of what appears to be a campaign by Russia to use financial muscle to extend its influence more widely through Asia.

On Tuesday, Moscow agreed to write off 90 percent of North Korea's \$11 billion debt and reinvest the balance in the reclusive Asian state, in a sign of closer engagement with Pyongyang under new leader Kim Jong-un.

Kyrgyzstan has

suffered periodic bouts of violence and deposed two presidents since 2005. Its economy, which has contracted this year, relies on output from a single gold mine and money sent home by migrant workers in Russia.

Trade between the two countries rose 5 percent last year to \$1.45 billion, official Russian data show, with Russian goods accounting for about a third of Kyrgyzstan's imports.

Around 600 Russian servicemen are deployed at the air base in Kant, 20 km (13 miles) from the capital Bishkek, alongside four Su-25 ground-attack aircraft and four Mi-8 transport helicopters.

The extension on Russia's lease will take effect from 2017 and includes an option for a further five years.

Reuters

Mozambique-China cooperation project to create 2,000 jobs

MAPUTO, 21 Sept— A 725 million US dollars bridge under Mozambique-China cooperation was launched on Thursday by Mozambican President Armando Guebuza in the capital Maputo, with the project estimated to generate 2,000 jobs.

This was announced by the project authorities on Thursday in the presence of President Guebuza, who official launched the first stone that marks the kick off of the construction works.

Guebuza highlighted the importance of the bridge to the development of the districts that will also benefit the construction of roads of more than 200 km and the people from Katembe.

"After the conclusion of the construction works we will be linking the entire country from Rovuma (in the northern region of the country) to Maputo in the real sense. The project will boost economic activities of the districts that will benefit from the roads," the president said.

Hailing the bridge as part of the cooperation between the governments of Mozambique and China, the president urged his people to protect the project.—Xinhua



People view building models during a real estate trade fair in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 20 Sept, 2012. The 2012 Nanjing Autumn Real Estate Trade Fair kicked off on Thursday, displaying nearly 30,000 apartments of 28 projects.

XINHUA

Long-term unemployed reaches almost three million in Spain

Spain

MADRID, 21 Sept— The long-term unemployed people reached almost three million in Spain, reported on Thursday AGETT, an association of temporary employment.

According to the report released on Thursday, the long-term unemployed represent a half of the total people who do not have a job, 52.2 percent. This means that a total of 2,974,400 people have been looking for a job for more than one year.

In addition, the report says that the number of unemployed who are over 55 years old increased and quadrupled since the start of the economic crisis. Nowadays there are 495,700 people unemployed with this age. The report says that people who are over 55 are the most active ones looking for a job, as 67 percent of them are unemployed more than one year ago. The economic crisis in Spain caused a significant number of unemployed people whose figure reaches almost five million people. Spain is the country with the highest unemployment rate in Europe, followed by Greece.—Xinhua



Apple fans camp outside the Apple retail store on the Fifth Ave in New York, the United States, on 20 Sept, 2012. Apple fans queued overnight outside the store for the first day of sales of Apple's iPhone 5 in the US.

XINHUA

IMF lowers 2012 growth outlook for S Korea to 3 pct

S Korea

SEOUL, 21 Sept— The International Monetary Fund (IMF) lowered on Friday its 2012 economic growth outlook for South Korea to 3 percent from 3.5 percent estimated in April, citing the eurozone fiscal crisis as a major risk factor.

According to the Ministry of Strategy and Finance, the downgraded outlook came after the IMF had an annual consultative meeting with the country's major ministries and agencies during the period of between 30 May and 12 June.

The growth outlook for 2013 was also cut to 3.9 percent from an earlier estimate of 4 percent, the ministry said.

The revised outlook was relatively optimistic compared with other local think tanks. The country's state-run Korea Development Institute (KDI) cut its 2012 growth outlook from 3.6 percent to 2.5 percent on Monday.

The Bank of Korea (BOK) has kept its 2012 growth outlook at 3 percent, but the central bank was widely expected to lower the outlook to the 2 percent range in October when it announces its revised outlook.

The IMF projected the country's exports to grow 5.6 percent this year, sharply lower than an 19.3 percent expansion tallied in the previous year. Exports, which account for around half the South Korean economy, dropped 6.2 percent on-year in August after tumbling 8.8 percent in July.

South Korea was forecast to post a current account surplus of 22.5 billion US dollars in 2012 before logging a surplus of 21 billion dollars in 2013.

Xinhua

King says euro zone threatens slow UK recovery

UK

LONDON, 21 Sept— Bank of England Governor Mervyn King gave his trademark downbeat assessment of the British and world economy on Thursday in his first live television interview after nearly 10 years in office, and warned the euro zone could yet fall apart.

Four years after the start of the financial crisis, King said it would be a long while before the economy returned to normal — and the most important task for Britain was now to reform bank regulation to reduce the chances of a future crisis. "We're beginning to see a few signs now of a slow recovery, but it will be a slow recovery. After a banking crisis one can't expect to get back to normal and I fear it will take a long time," he told Channel 4 News. Given this situation, it might now be "acceptable" for the government to miss a key debt-cutting goal, he added.

The economy entered its second recession since the crisis late last year, and although King and most private sector economists expect it to grow during the current quarter, King said prospects beyond that hinged on overseas factors.

"What it will depend on critically, I think, is what happens in the euro area and also the rest of the world," he said.

"(Policymakers) have persisted with trying to keep all the countries in the euro zone ... and tried very hard to keep the show on the road. But I don't think there's any guarantee that they will be able to do that."

King's language echoed that of his last news conference in August, when the central bank slashed growth forecasts for this year, and he warned again that a "black cloud of uncertainty" was depressing British and US business confidence.—Reuters



Governor of the Bank of England Mervyn King speaks at a business conference in London on 26 July, 2012.

REUTERS

35 million Brazilians ascend to middle class in past decade: Study

RIO DE JANEIRO, 21 Sept— Some 35 million Brazilians were lifted in the past 10 years from poverty to middle class, representing around 21 percent of the country's population, according to a study published on Thursday.

The Middle Class Voices study, released by the Presidency's Strategic Affairs Secretariat, found that with this increase, the middle-class population accounts for 53 percent of the 194 million in total in Brazil.

At the same time, six percent of the population ascended from the middle to the rich class, the study said.

It predicted that middle-class population will make up for 57 percent of the total by 2022 if the current policies maintain.

The study attributes the middle class' growth to two main factors: a reduction in inequality and overall economic growth in Brazil.

Strategic Affairs Secretary Moreira Franco said that the expansion of the middle class is very important, for this section of the population is responsible for 38 percent of household wealth and consumption.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

Wen says both China and EU against trade protectionism

EU

BRUSSELS, 21 Sept—Both China and the European Union reject trade protectionism, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said on Thursday after a summit meeting with EU leaders.

“We both (China and the European Union) follow free and open economic and trade policies, reject trade protectionism and work to advance economic globalisation,” Wen told a business conference on the sidelines of the summit.

He also said he believed Europe was able to overcome its debt crisis, and that China continued to invest in European government debt. “Europe is on the right track in tackling its debt issue, and what is crucial now is to fully implement all the policy measures,” Wen said.

Earlier in the day, Wen met European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and Herman Van Rompuy, president of the European Council, which represents national governments. The leaders were meeting against a background of growing trade disputes between China and the European Union.—Reuters

US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta (R, front) receives a souvenir as he visits the frigate “Yantai” in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, on 20 Sept, 2012. Panetta visited the Headquarters of China’s North Sea Fleet and toured Chinese naval vessels on Thursday.

XINHUA



China donates 100 ambulances to Afghanistan

KABUL, 21 Sept—The government of China donated 100 ambulances to Afghanistan’s Public Health Ministry on Thursday, Public Health Ministry said in a statement released here.

“The People Republic of China donated 100 new ambulances worth 4 million US dollars to the Ministry for Public Health and a technical team of China would also train Afghans on how to maintain and repair the ambulances,” the statement added.

Afghan minister for public health Dr Saraya Dalil, while thanking China for the contribution, said the ambulances will be distributed to all the health centres in the provinces.

Speaking on the occasion, Chinese ambassador to Afghanistan Xu Feihong said that China would continue to support Afghanistan and donation of these ambulances speaks of Chinese government firm commitment in this regard.—Xinhua

Record number of New Zealanders leave to seek better life in Australia

New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 21 Sept—A record number of New Zealanders left to seek a better life in Australia in the year to the end of August, the government statistics agency announced on Friday.

Therecord 53,900 people who emigrated across the Tasman Sea was offset by 13,900 people immigrating from Australia, leaving a net loss to Australia of 40,000 also a monthly record, according to Statistics New Zealand. Most migrants in both directions were New Zealand citizens, said a

statement from the agency.

The figure prompted a barrage of criticism from opposition political parties and unions of the government’s economic policies, and calls for a revision of the country’s monetary policy to curb the high exchange rate and help exporters.

The opposition Green Party said 166,373 New Zealanders had left to live in Australia since the centre-right coalition government of Prime Minister John Key came to power in November

2008. New Zealanders were leaving because the country had too few jobs and the jobs that did exist paid too poorly, Green Party co-leader Dr Russel Norman said in a statement. “In manufacturing alone, 40,000 jobs have been lost under this government,” he said. “The rest of the world is using modern policy tools to protect jobs for their workers while our government refuses to do anything.”

Leader of the main opposition Labour Party David Shearer said the country was facing the

tragedy of its smartest young people “leaving in droves.”

“Mr Key campaigned on stopping this exodus. He promised to shrink the wage gap. And he promised a brighter future. None of that is happening,” Shearer said in a statement.

The Council of Trade Unions (CTU) said 271,000 New Zealanders were now jobless and another 110,000 were looking for extra hours of work a situation that “would be even worse if it was not for the outflow to Australia.”

Xinhua

Three killed, six wounded in S Philippine ambush

ZAMBOANGA CITY, 21 Sept—Three people were killed and six others were wounded after suspected members of the rogue group Abu Sayyaf staged an ambush in the southern Philippine province of Basilan, the military confirmed on Friday.

Capt Alberto Caber, spokesman of the Philippine army’s 1st Division, said the Abu Sayyaf attacked rubber plantation workers at about 5 pm on Thursday at the village of Sapah Bulak in Sumisip town.

“Two of those killed were unarmed militia members, a civilian worker, while four other militia members and two civilians were also wounded,” said

Caber.

He said the victims came from a dialogue with the management of the Tumahubong Agrarian Reform Beneficiary Integrated Development Cooperative and religious sectors to address the spate of attacks against the workers.

The victims were brought to a hospital in Isabela City, the capital of Basilan, while some were brought to a hospital in Zamboanga city.

The attackers were positively identified as the same group of Abu Sayyaf members who were responsible for previous assaults against the rubber plantation workers in Tumahubong, Basilan.

Xinhua



Visitors watch a fishing boat at China Tourism Industries Festival in Tianjin, north China, on 20 Sept, 2012. The three-day festival, which kicked off on Thursday, attracted 500 enterprises from home and abroad.—XINHUA

Afghanistan says Pakistani shelling risks “negative consequences”

UN

UNITED NATIONS, 21 Sept—Afghanistan’s foreign minister warned the UN Security Council on Thursday that its ties with Pakistan were being threatened by Pakistani shelling across the two countries’ mountainous border that has killed dozens of Afghan civilians.

Afghanistan has for months accused Pakistan’s army of firing hundreds of rockets into the two eastern provinces of Kunar and Nuristan, targeting insurgent havens but also forcing Afghan villagers to flee their homes.

“Failure to end such attacks risks jeopardizing Afghanistan-Pakistan bilateral relations, with potential negative consequences for necessary bilateral cooperation for peace, security and economic development in our two countries and the wider region,” Afghan Foreign Minister Zalmi Rassoul said.

Afghanistan has sent additional troops and long-range artillery to the border with Pakistan as tensions rose over the shelling.

“We reiterate our call for an immediate and complete end to these acts, which have taken the lives of dozens of Afghans, mainly civilians, while leaving many more wounded,” Rassoul said.

Pakistan has repeatedly accused Afghanistan of giving safe haven to militants on the Afghan side of the border, particularly in Kunar province, leaving Pakistan vulnerable to counter-attack when it chases them out of its own ethnic Pashtun tribal areas.

Pakistan’s UN Ambassador Abdullah Hussain Haroon said his country had a robust security force along its border with Afghanistan and had recently enhanced its presence with checkpoints and regular patrolling.—Reuters

Thai flood still worrisome

BANGKOK, 21 Sept—The flood situation in many provinces is still worrisome particularly in the eastern provinces. In eastern province of Sa Kaeo, large amount of flood water was drained into the Prachin Buri River, relieving the situation in Sa Kaeo. Unfortunately, the water overflowed to flood a nearby province Prachin Buri and submerge its Kabin Buri district, affecting the agricultural areas and homes.

Residents in flooded area in Prachin Buri were forced to move their vehicles, as well as pets, to higher ground.

Some of the villagers has

evacuated and stay on the roadside which caused them difficulties to commuters.

Meanwhile, in central province of Nakhon Pathom, adjacent to the capital, water from the Tha Chin River overflowed into the Nakhon Chai Si municipality and the famous Tha Na market which was the 100 year old trading district. Local authorities are using pumps to drain floodwater into Tha Chin River to protect paddy fields and orchards.

In northern province of Phisanulok, three districts remained submerged by water overflowing from the Yom River. The Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department on Thursday reported that 15 provinces have been affected from the flood.

The 15 provinces are western province of Tak, central province of Sukhothai, Pichit, Nakhon Sawan, Nakhon Pathom, Chainat, Ang Thong, Ayutthaya, Supan Buri, eastern province of Prachin Buri, Sa Kaeo and northeastern province of Chaiyaphum, affecting more than 210,000 people. Meanwhile, Science and Technology Minister Plodprasop Surasawadi, as chairman of the Water and Flood Management Commission, will begin a three-day trip to eight provinces on Friday to see the flood situation first hand.—Xinhua



People gather around the fire accident site in slums at the Begunbari area in Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh, on 20 Sept. 2012. About 400 shanties were destroyed and 15 people were injured in the accident, fire brigade said.—XINHUA

BUSINESS & ADVERTISEMENT

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MV MOROTAI VOY NO (188)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (188) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (22)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (22) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: NYK LINE**

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FORESIGHTER VOY NO (5)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FORESIGHTER VOY NO (5) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN-CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

Russia expects visit of Japanese PM this year

Moscow, 21 Sept— Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda may visit Russia by the end of this year, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Thursday.

"We are going to work closely with the Japanese side to fill that visit with substance, so it would bring additional fruits to our cooperation," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Lukashevich.

Lukashevich added that both Moscow and Tokyo would work on making Noda's visit filled with a "particular content."

"As far as I know, the (Russian) foreign minister plans to contact with (Japanese FM Koichiro) Gamba during the UN General Assembly. Perhaps, there we could understand more precisely the order of our joint actions and further political contacts," Lukashevich said.—Xinhua

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Dated: 22 September 2012

Noda retains leadership in DPJ election



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda addresses the leadership election of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) in Tokyo, Japan, on 21 Sept, 2012. Yoshihiko Noda won the leadership election of DPJ by a big margin here on Friday, initial results showed.—XINHUA

Italy's growth outlook still dismal after Monti reforms **Italy**

ROME, 21 Sept— Prime Minister Mario Monti may have saved Italy from ruinous default but the growth potential of Europe's most sluggish economy is as weak as ever, and that means prospects for lasting debt reduction remain fragile.

Thanks to his decisive austerity measures and personal credibility, the economist and former European commissioner has put Italy back at the centre of European decision making and helped to lower its borrowing costs.

Yet only by boosting its growth potential — the ability to grow consistently without generating inflation — can he hope to lower a debt pile of more than 120 percent of output, second only to Greece's in the euro zone.

With the end of Monti's term just six months away, and no clarity about what sort of government will follow him let alone how committed it will be to austerity and deregulation, most economists say progress on this front has been disappointing.

"I think that Italy's growth potential is exactly what it was when Monti



Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti gestures during an interview at the Ambrosetti workshop, an economic conference, in Cernobbio, next to Como, on 8 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

arrived," said Daniel Gros, head of the Brussels based Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS).

Italy grew at an average rate of 0.25 percent per year in the decade to 2011, the worst performance not only in the EU but also among the G20 and the 34 states that make up the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The economy is once again in steep recession, forecast by economists to contract by around 2.5 percent this year. The OECD says its growth potential is

now a paltry 0.3 percent.

The government aims to cut the debt from 123.4 percent of GDP this year to 114.4 percent in 2015. It says it could fall to 100 percent of output in 2019 and 60 percent in 2025.

However, this depends on borrowing costs stabilising at pre-crisis levels, tough austerity at least until 2015 and, at the same time, a return to stable and steady growth.

The combination of all three looks like wishful thinking.

Reuters



People examine the wreckage of a damaged bus at the blast site in northwest Pakistan's Peshawar on 20 Sept, 2012. At least ten people were killed and 22 others injured as a bomb hit a passenger van in Pakistan's northwest city of Peshawar on Wednesday afternoon, said hospital sources. XINHUA

Assets worth \$10 million stolen from bond fund manager's California home **US**

LOS ANGELES, 21 Sept— Assets worth more than \$10 million, including famous works of art, a Porsche and luxury watches, have been stolen from the California home of one of the world's leading bond fund managers, a source familiar with the situation said on Thursday.

The burglary at Jeffrey Gundlach's home in the coastal town of Santa Monica occurred between the afternoon of 12 September and the night of September 14, according to police.

The massive heist included paintings by Jasper Johns and Piet Mondrian, a red 2010 Porsche Carrera 4S taken from the garage, expensive watches made by the likes of Glashutte and Breitling, some wine and a small amount of cash, police said in a statement.

Police did not identify the burglary victim, but the source familiar with the situation confirmed it was Gundlach, the CEO of DoubleLine Capital.

A separate source connected to the case said Gundlach was offering a \$200,000 reward for the recovery of the stolen items, and anyone with information on the theft was urged to call the Santa Monica Police Department.

The police statement detailing the crime showed images of the stolen art pieces, which also included works by Frank Stella, Guy Rose, Hanson Duvall Puthuff and other artists.

The painting by Johns, who last year received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, is his 1956 "Green Target." The piece by the late Dutch artist Mondrian is his 1936 "Composition (A) En Rouge Et Blanc."

Gundlach is the chief executive officer and chief investment officer of DoubleLine Capital. He was a star bond investor with TCW Inc but left the company amid acrimony and went on to found DoubleLine.—Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

Singer Fiona Apple arrested on drug charge in Texas

SAN ANTONIO, 21 Sept—Grammy-winning singer Fiona Apple spent the night in a Texas jail after being arrested late Wednesday on a felony drug possession charge at a border patrol checkpoint where her tour bus was searched, local officials said.

Apple, 35, was taken into custody in Sierra Blanca, the same small west Texas town where authorities previously nabbed singer Willie Nelson, rapper Snoop Dogg and “The Social Network” actor Armie Hammer on drug charges.

The singer-songwriter had 4 grams of hashish, a form of cannabis, in her possession, said Rusty Fleming, spokesman for the sheriff in Hudspeth County, of which Sierra Blanca is the county seat.

Fleming said there were seven other people on the bus, but Apple admitted the drugs were hers and everybody else was allowed to drive on. She was respectful and calm, though became concerned when she learned she would have to stay in jail overnight, he said.

She was released after posting bail on Thursday, and her jail stay passed “without incident,” Fleming said.

Asked why so many celebrities have been arrested in the town on Interstate 10, County Judge Becky Dean-Walker said, “because they come through here with stuff they shouldn’t have”.

The Interstate 10 highway runs coast-to-coast across the United States between California and Florida. Apple, who won a Grammy for the single “Criminal” off her 1996 debut



Singer Fiona Apple is seen in this police booking photo from the Hudspeth County Sheriff Department received by Reuters on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

album “Tidal,” was due to perform in Austin on Thursday night but the venue’s website said the show was postponed.

A spokeswoman for Apple declined to comment.—Reuters

Obamas head for “The View”, Ann Romney bound for Jay Leno

NEW YORK, 21 Sept—President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will make their first joint appearance on the US daytime talk show “The View” next week, while Ann Romney will chat with comedian Jay Leno in her first late-night interview, networks ABC and NBC said on Thursday.

The 25 September “View” broadcast will mark the first time the Obamas have appeared together on the one-hour show featuring a team of dynamic women, led by Barbara Walters, discussing the hot topics of the day.

ABC said in a statement that the Obamas would talk about their relationship, family life inside the White House and the 6 November presidential elections on the Emmy Award winning show.

On NBC, the wife of Republican presidential challenger Mitt Romney will be a guest on Leno’s on “The Tonight Show,” also on 25 September, and give her thoughts on family life and the coming election, the network said in a statement.

TV chat shows have become a popular tool for politicians to show their human side. Obama became the first sitting US President to appear on a late-night talk show when he was a guest on “The Tonight Show” in March 2009.

Since that time, Obama, Romney and their wives have made multiple appearances on the daytime and evening talk show circuits.—Reuters



US President Barack Obama celebrates with first lady Michelle Obama and his daughter Malia (L) after accepting the 2012 US Democratic presidential nomination during the final session of Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, on 6 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Casino mogul Adelson opens new resort in Macau

April.

The new casino can only add new gambling tables starting in 2013 due to government regulations, so Adelson compensated by moving close to 200 tables from his existing Venetian and Sands Macau casinos.

The impact of Sands’ fifth casino in Macau, the only place where Chinese nationals can legally casino gamble, will be relatively muted due to the lack of new tables, analysts said.

While Macau’s gambling revenue growth slowed significantly in the second quarter from a year earlier, overall revenues have risen and casino companies are still pledging billions to expand their footprints.

Macau’s gambling revenue growth for the year is expected to reach between 10-15 percent, say analysts, most of whom have downgraded their estimates from around 20 percent, due to slower-than-expected growth particularly in the lucrative VIP sector made up of wealthy Chinese.

The latest opening comes as Adelson is the focus of a series of lawsuits and investigations in the United States and Macau.

Sands Cotai Central is adding another Sheraton hotel tower early next year and also plans a St Regis hotel tower. When completed, Sands will have more than 9,000 hotel rooms, which it says will help drive business.—Reuters



Macau Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai-On chats with Las Vegas Sands Chairman and CEO Sheldon Adelson (C) and his wife Miriam Ochsorn (R) during the opening ceremony of Sheraton Macao hotel at Sands Cotai Central in Macau on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

MACAU, 21 Sept—US billionaire Sheldon Adelson opened his latest resort in Macau on Thursday, adding to a string of casinos in the world’s largest gambling destination that has helped the high-profile donor to the US Republican party earn most of his multi-billion dollar fortune.

Adelson, chairman of Las Vegas Sands Corp and its Macau unit, Sands China Ltd, presided over the opening of his Polynesian-themed casino and Sheraton Macau hotel, adding to his Sands Cotai Central property, which opened in

Rare Cartier-Bresson photos of Sri Aurobindo on display

NEW DELHI, 21 Sept—Artist Henri Cartier-Bresson’s photographs of Sri Aurobindo, the guru nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, and his French-born spiritual companion are on exhibit in New Delhi, offering a rare glimpse of life at the Aurobindo ashram in Pondicherry.

More than 100 prints from a photo album purchased at a London auction by an Indian art collector are on display. The photos were taken just months before Sri Aurobindo, founder of the commune in the former French

colonial town of Pondicherry, died in 1950.

Widely regarded as the father of photojournalism, Cartier-Bresson’s fascination with India saw him capture remarkable images of Mahatma Gandhi’s funeral in January 1948. Two years later, he undertook a lesser known project, becoming the first person in 30 years to photograph Aurobindo and his partner, known as the Mother. The black-and-white photographs taken by the French master, who died at the age of 95 in 2004, show Aurobindo inside his bedroom, and the Mother interacting with devotees. In one series of Cartier-Bresson’s images, the Mother, born Mirra Alfassa in Paris, is seen playing tennis.

“It’s kind of an exploration of his more amateur side,” Rahaab Allana, the exhibition’s curator, said. “He’s sort of a photographer in practice rather than an established photographer that we know Bresson to be.”

The pictures had been kept out of public sight for decades. Some of the images were published in the British magazine *Illustrated* in 1951, but the Mother objected to the way Aurobindo was described in the accompanying article, with her personal secretary describing it as “unspeakably vulgar” in a letter sent to Cartier-Bresson.

Reuters



A woman looks at the unbound and unpublished photographs of French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson, curated by the Alkazi Foundation “Mastering the Lens: Before and After Cartier-Bresson in Pondicherry”, at Alliance Francaise in New Delhi, on 19 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Golconda diamond expected to sell for over \$15 million

NEW YORK, 21 Sept—A 76-carat diamond billed as one of the most famous in the world is expected to fetch well over \$15 million when it hits the auction block in November, Christie’s said on Friday. The colossal gem, which Christie’s said was the finest and largest perfect Golconda diamond ever to appear at auction, is perfect in color and internally flawless.

“The legendary Golconda mines in India produced some of the world’s most famous diamonds, including the Dresden green, the blue Hope, and the Koh-i-Noor (in the Royal Collection at the Tower of London),” Rahul Kadakia, head of jewelry for Christie’s Americas and Switzerland, told Reuters.

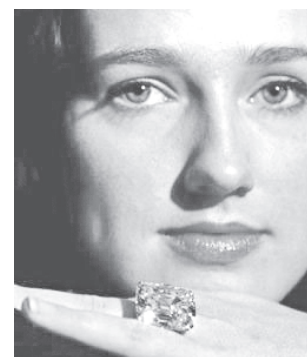
The diamond, named the Archduke Joseph Diamond for one of its former owners, is the highlight of Christie’s sale

of precious gems in Geneva in November, the auction house said in a statement.

A Christie’s spokeswoman said the owner of the diamond wanted to remain anonymous. Prices for rare, top quality diamonds have soared in recent years, although the expected price would not make the record books. Higher prices attained

in recent years include the Wittelsbach Diamond—a 17th century cushion-shaped deep grayish-blue diamond, which sold for \$24.3 million in 2008 at Christie’s in London.

Two years ago a 25-carat pink diamond soared to more than \$46 million at Sotheby’s in Geneva, while last December Hollywood star Elizabeth Taylor’s 33-carat diamond ring, given to her by husband Richard Burton, fetched \$8.8 million, briefly setting a new per carat record for a colorless diamond of \$240,000 that has already been eclipsed. “The Archduke Joseph Diamond created a sensation when Christie’s Geneva offered it for sale the first time in November 1993, where it realized 9.7 million Swiss francs—the equivalent of \$10.5 million today,” noted François Curiel, international head of Christie’s jewelry department.—Reuters



Therese Lindvist of Christie’s auction rooms displays the Archduke Joseph Diamond on 3 November.—REUTERS

SPORTS

Liverpool win eight-goal match, Vargas hat-trick for Napoli **Soccer**



Liverpool's Sebastian Coates and Fabio Borini (L) celebrate after scoring their third goal against BSC Young Boys (YB) during their Europa League Group A soccer match in Bern on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

BERNE, 21 Sept—Liverpool twice squandered the lead, trailed 3-2 and then scored three times in the last 25 minutes to win 5-3 at Young Boys in an enthralling but blunder-prone Europa League tie on Thursday.

Chile forward Eduardo Vargas scored a hat-trick to propel Napoli to a 4-0 win over AIK Stockholm and titleholders Atletico Madrid won 3-0 at Hapoel Tel Aviv as the monstrous group phase got under way.

Liverpool, effectively fielding a reserve team in Bern, were gifted a fourth minute lead with a bizarre own goal as Christoph

Spycher headed the ball straight at team mate Juhani Ojala and it ricocheted into the net. Liverpool returned the gift when Jose Enrique lost the ball in the penalty area and Raphael Nuzzolo fired into the roof of the net in the 38th minute, only for Andre Wisdom to head Liverpool back in front almost immediately.

Ojala equalised and Gonzalo Zarate put the Swiss ahead with a delightful dinked finish. Then Uruguay defender Sebastian Coates made it 3-3 after another Young Boys mix-up and two goals from Jonjo Shelvey won the game for the three-times

UEFA Cup winners.

Cristian Rodriguez and Diego Costa scored twice in three minutes before halftime for Atletico in Group B and Raul Garcia completed the scoring.

There were dramatic finishes at Fenerbahce, where visitors Olympique Marseille scored twice in the last 10 minutes to force a 2-2 draw, and AEL Limassol where Borussia Moenchengladbach missed a penalty in the eighth minute of stoppage time in a 0-0 draw.

Caner Erkin and Alex put Fenerbahce 2-0 ahead inside the hour before Andre Ayew inspired Marseille's revival, setting up one goal for Mathieu Valbuena in the 83rd minute and scoring the equaliser in stoppage time.

Gladbach, who like Liverpool left several regular players out of the team, should still have won their game in Cyprus but Oscar Wendt fired his penalty against the crossbar.

Udinese also provided some late drama as talismanic striker Antonio Di Natale scored an injury time equaliser to give them a 1-1 draw at home to big-spending Russians Anzhi Makhachkala.—Reuters

Heskey agrees deal to join Australia's Newcastle Jets **Soccer**

SYDNEY, 21 Sept—Former England striker Emile Heskey has signed a one-year deal with Australian club the Newcastle Jets and could face Alessandro Del Piero in the Italian's first home match for Sydney FC in the A-League next month. The 34-year-old former Leicester, Liverpool, Birmingham and Wigan player won 62 caps for his country, scoring seven goals and playing at two World Cups, but was without a club after being released by Villa at the end of last season.

Heskey will join former Sunderland and Leeds United forward Michael Bridges at the Jets and follows fellow former Liverpool striker

Robbie Fowler, who played in the A-League for two years, in moving to Australia.

"This is an exciting new period in my life and I am looking forward to making a special contribution to the A-League and most importantly, to the Jets," Heskey said in a statement released by the club on Friday. "I hope I can help grow football at the grassroots level and also provide advice to young players at the Jets.

"The season isn't far away, so I will be in Newcastle soon, training with my new team mates and be ready for kick off on 7 October."

The club is owned by mining magnate Nathan Tinkler's Hunter Sports



Former England striker Emile Heskey (L).—REUTERS

Group (HSG), which threatened to relinquish the franchise earlier this year after suffering an "irrevocable breakdown in confidence" in the management of Football Federation Australia (FFA).

The row was eventually resolved after direct talks between Tinkler and his fellow multi-millionaire Frank Lowy, who is chairman of the

Tiger lands first blow in East Lake 'duel' with Rory **Golf**

ATLANTA, 21 Sept—Tiger Woods delivered the best possible response to suggestions earlier this week that he is intimidated by Rory McIlroy as he outscored the world number one by three shots in the Tour Championship first round on Thursday.

Playing with the mop-haired Northern Irishman in the final pairing in front of huge galleries at East Lake Golf Club, Woods birdied two of the last four holes for a four-under-par 66 to burst into a share of the lead.

McIlroy, who led the FedExCup points standings coming into the PGA Tour's fourth and final playoff event, carded a 69 in his first competitive round on the challenging East Lake layout.

"I enjoy playing with Rory," Woods, 36, told reporters after joining Britain's Justin Rose atop the leaderboard in the 2012 FedExCup finale.

"He's a great kid. Over the years there are certain pairings for me that I've enjoyed, and Rory is one of them."

Woods, a three-times winner on the PGA Tour this season, was paired with

McIlroy for a fifth time in this year's FedExCup playoffs, a perfect scenario for television ratings as well as for the East Lake fans.

"I think that is the whole idea of the playoffs, trying to get the top players all playing more often but also in the same group," said world number two Woods, who won the Tour Championship in

season by winning four times, including his second major title at last month's PGA Championship, relished playing again with the American former world number one.

"It was great," the 23-year-old Northern Irishman said. "I always say with groupings like that, it's a great atmosphere and it's a great



Tiger Woods of the US walks across the 15th fairway during the first round of the Tour Championship golf tournament at the East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta, Georgia on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

1999 and 2007. "You figure the top players are going to gravitate towards the top of the points list and hence, you're going to have these types of pairings throughout the playoffs. And it's turned out that way this year.

McIlroy, who has overshadowed Woods this

buzz. I wish I could have shot a couple of shots better.

"But I'm in a good position going into tomorrow. I'll just go out there and try to play the same way, maybe hole a few more putts and turn what I shot today into something in the mid-60s."

Reuters

Caterham appoint new CEO Abiteboul **Motor racing**

SINGAPORE, 21 Sept—Caterham have appointed Cyril Abiteboul, currently deputy managing director of Renault Sport Formula One, as their new CEO, the Malaysian-owned outfit said on Friday.

Abiteboul will juggle both the roles until January after which he will join the English-based team where he will report to Caterham Group CEO Riad Asmat and chairman Tony Fernandes.

"I am obviously really happy to join this team that is still only in its third year and I would like to thank Tony, Kamarudin and Riad for this fantastic opportunity," Abiteboul said in a statement. "The vision, enthusiasm

and appetite of the shareholders and the whole team will be very precious strengths to help us tackle the many challenges we have ahead as we continue to develop the F1 platform and hopefully make our way up through the grid."

Caterham, who failed to score a point in their previous life as Team Lotus in 2010 and 2011, are one of three teams who have yet to open their account ahead of this season's 14th race in Singapore on Sunday.

Abiteboul, who has spent 11 years with Renault, has some experience of working with Caterham as Renault provide engines for the fledgling outfit.—Reuters



Caterham has announced Cyril Abiteboul will join the Formula 1 team as its CEO.—REUTERS

Mexico to bid to stage third World Cup finals in 2026

MEXICO CITY, 21 Sept—Mexico will bid to host the 2026 World Cup, the country's soccer chief Justino Compean said on Thursday.

Mexico hosted the 1970 and 1986 World Cups and a successful bid for the 2026 finals would make the country the first to host the global showpiece event three times. "Mexico was a great host in '70 and '86, so we are indeed going to fight (for the right), we want to have a World Cup (again), there will be a strong competition with the United States," Mexican Football Federation president Compean told reporters.

"Mexico's football infrastructure keeps growing and that World Cup can be feasible for Mexico." The 1950 World Cup hosts Brazil stage their second finals in 2014. Russia won the 2018 bid, while Qatar will stage the 2022 finals.—Reuters



The soccer field is covered with a rain tarp at the Azteca stadium in Mexico City on 12 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(22-9-12 09:30 am ~ 23-9-12 09:30 am) MST
 * News
 * Press Conference of Nostalgic University Life Fund-Raising Concert
 * News
 * Record Album
 * Mt Popa: An Oasis in the Central Region
 * News
 * Kid's Talent
 * News
 * Myanmar Global Investment Forum:

Progress, Potential and Promise
 * News
 * Culture Stage
 * Yearning For Khin Art Exhibition
 * News
 * Happy Mum & Health Baby Photo Contest
 * News
 * International Day of Democracy 2012
 * News
 * The Art of Making Glaze Ware
 * Myanmar Movie "Inseparable Siblings"

MYANMAR TV

(22-9-2012) (Saturday)

7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
 7:15 am
 2. Dhamma Puja Song
 7:25 am
 3. To Be Healthy Exercise
 7:40 am
 4. Nice & Sweet Song
 8:15 am
 5. Poem Garden
 8:25 am
 6. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Classical Song) (Amateur (Second) Division) (Level Men & Women)

11:10 am
 7. Game For Children
 11:40 am
 8. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
 1:55 pm
 9. Teleplay
 4:15 pm
 10. Cultural Dances
 4:20 pm
 11. Song of National Races
 5:10 pm
 12. Beautiful "Asean"
 6:20 pm
 13. Documentary
 6:30 pm
 14. Celebratory and Dinner
 8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. Cartoon Series
 17. TV Drama Series
 18. Gitadagale Phwinfbaohn

Alex Ferguson relief as Manchester United scrape winning start



MANCHESTER, 21 Sept—Manchester United rejoined the Champions League on Wednesday with about as much conviction as they exited the competition last season, although their 1-0 win over Galatasaray provided two priceless improvements in three points and a clean sheet. The three-times winners and 2011 finalists failed to reach the knockout rounds last season - the first time since 2005-06 they had fallen at the group stage - and they won just one game at

home in a dismal campaign. Their undoing, acknowledged with rare candour by Alex Ferguson, had been complacency and a vulnerability in defence at Old Trafford that cost them dear in a 3-3 draw with Basle and a 2-2 draw with Benfica.

So Ferguson's overriding emotion after Michael Carrick's winner on Wednesday was one of relief at the result rather than concern at the performance.

"Three points in the opening game are very important, especially when you look at what happened to us last season," Ferguson, who celebrated his 100th Champions League win, told reporters.

"In the first half we gave the ball away too often and they counter-attacked really well. In the second half, we were much more solid at the back, and all the chances fell to us.

"It was a good opening

game, they were very confident in their possession, and missing the chances we did in the second half we kept ourselves on the edge."

The Scot might revise his thinking when he reflects on the bigger picture.

United were poor in possession, lacking control in midfield, unable to conjure a clear chance for Robin van Persie, and reliant on good fortune and the fingertips of David de Gea in safeguarding their lead. Indeed, Galatasaray, returning to Europe's

elite club competition for the first time in six years, must be wondering how they failed to repeat the achievements of Basle and Benfica.

The Turkish champions hit the woodwork three times, through Nordin Amrabat, Hamit Altintop and Selcuk Inan, and had one strong penalty claim turned down.

Nani's penalty miss for United - his feeble 53rd-minute spot-kick was saved low by Fernando Muslera - merely compounded his team's struggle.—PTI

Paris Hilton is "sorry from the bottom" of her heart for anti-gay rant

NEW DELHI, 21 Sept—Socialite Paris Hilton, who was recorded stating many gay men "probably have AIDS" and saying they are "disgusting" for being promiscuous to a friend in the back of a taxi, has now apologised for her words and insists they do not represent her true feelings towards the homosexual community.

In a statement on the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) website, she said: "I am so sorry and so upset that I caused pain to my gay friends, fans and their families with the comments heard this morning.

I was having this private conversation with a friend of mine who is gay and our conversation was in no way towards the entire gay community. "It is the last thing that I would ever want to do and I cannot put into words how much I wish I could take back every word."

She also proclaimed gay people to be among "the most inspiring" individuals she knows because many have to overcome bullying.

Paris added: "Gay people are the strongest and most inspiring people I know. It is so wrong when people bully or put down others for being gay. No one should have to go through that. Again, I am so sorry from the bottom of my heart and I feel absolutely horrible." Socialite Paris Hilton was recorded stating many gay men "probably have AIDS" and saying they are "disgusting" for being promiscuous to a friend in the back of a taxi, but she has now apologised for her words and insists they do not represent her true feelings towards the homosexual community.

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Israeli soldier, three gunmen killed on Egypt border



A wounded Israeli soldier is wheeled into Soroka hospital in the southern city of Beersheba 21 Sept, 2012.

JERUSALEM, 21 Sept—Israeli troops on Friday killed three militants who infiltrated over the border from Egypt to launch an attack and an Israeli soldier also died in the clash, an Israeli army spokeswoman and Israeli media said.

The Israeli military declined immediate comment on reports of Israeli casualties.

"Three armed terrorists crossed the border into Israel and opened fire at troops securing workers who are building the border fence in the area.

"They (attackers) were wearing flak jackets and were well armed and carried explosive belts," spokeswoman Lieutenant-Colonel Avital Leibovich said.

She said she did not have information on the identity or affiliation of the gunmen but added that soldiers from a joint male-female army battalion had been involved in the fighting and "managed to thwart a major incident."

An Egyptian security source said one of the gunmen died when a bomb he was carrying detonated and the other two were killed in a gunbattle with Israeli forces, adding that the nationalities of the gunmen were not immediately clear.

In June, militants crossed into Israel from Egypt's Sinai desert and fired on Israelis building a barrier on the border, killing a worker, before soldiers killed two of the attackers.

Israel is putting up the border fence to curb an influx of African migrants and improve security, hoping to complete it by the end of the year.

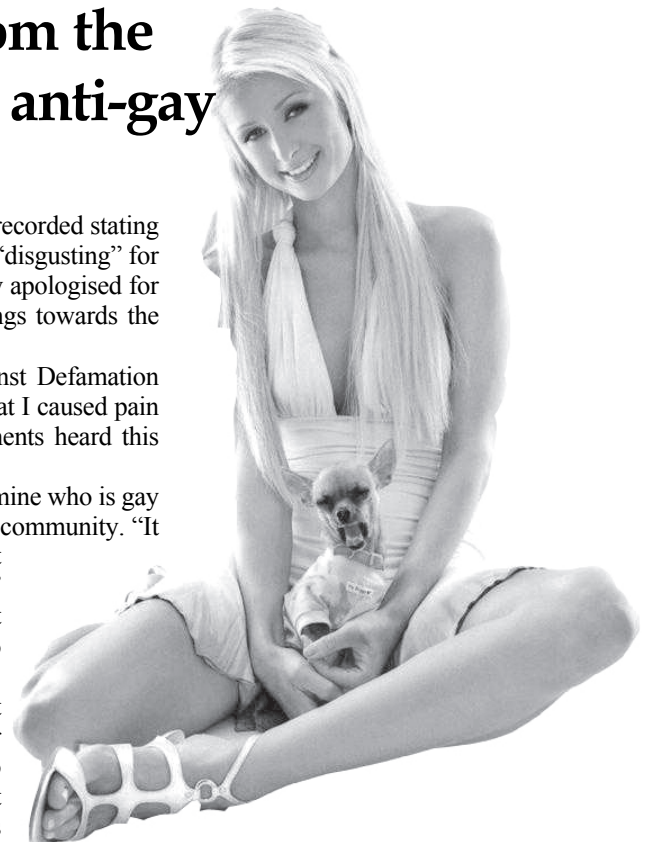
It will run along most of the 266-km (165 miles) frontier from Eilat, on the Red Sea, to the Gaza Strip.

Reuters



Visitors watch the classic cars during an international classic car show in Tianjin, north China, on 21 Sept, 2012.

XINHUA



Myanmar, British Armed Forces keen on closer cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win received Retd General Sir Mike Jackson and Director Mr David Rigg of Project Associates of Britain at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, Air) General Hla Htay Win, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe from Commander-in-Chief's Office, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Mr Jeremy Andrew Hodges from British Embassy.

They frankly discussed promotion of ties between two armed forces.—MNA



General Soe Win receives Retd General Sir Mike Jackson and Director Mr David Rigg of Project Associates of Britain at Zeyathiri Beikman.—MNA

Union Mines Minister meets staff from the Ministry in Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung met the staff from departments/enterprises under the Mines Ministry at Myanma Gems Enterprise (Mandalay Branch) yesterday noon in Mandalay and called for observance of the code of conduct of civil servants and carrying out the tasks in accord with the law.

The Union Minister met with Vice-Chairman and executives from Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs' Association (Mandalay Branch).

The Union Minister also met officials from Amyotha Kyeepwar Toetetyay and Shwemoeyan companies which are engaged in gold mining industry in Moehti Moemi Region at District



Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung meets staff from departments/enterprises under the Mines Ministry at Myanma Gems Enterprise (Mandalay Branch) in Mandalay.—MNA

General Administration Department in Yamethin this morning. The Union Minister urged the officials concerned

to fulfill the needs of workers and to form field inspection group including departmental officials led by region

government for enforcing agreements reached between the companies and workers. MNA

Suarez and Evra should lay wreaths at Anfield - Fowler



LONDON, 21 Sept—Former Liverpool striker Robbie Fowler has suggested Patrice Evra and Luis Suarez lay floral tributes to mark the tragedies both clubs have suffered before Sunday's game between his old club and Manchester United at Anfield.

The Premier League match is the first between the two fierce rivals since the publication last week of an independent report into the

Hillsborough disaster which exonerated Liverpool fans from any blame in the 1989 tragedy that claimed 96 lives.

Evra and Suarez were involved in a major controversy last season which resulted in Suarez being banned for eight matches for racially abusing Evra at Anfield last October.

Sunday's occasion is likely to be highly emotional with both Manchester United and Liverpool players and

managers urging fans throughout the week to show respect to each other.

Fowler told BBC Radio 5 Live it would be appropriate for Suarez and Evra to help defuse the tension by showing unity before kickoff.

"It would be nice for Luis Suarez to put some flowers at the United end regarding Munich, and for Patrice Evra to do so at the Kop," Fowler said.

"The two clubs do have a rivalry, but some things are far more important than football and this is one of them."

Fowler suggested Suarez should commemorate the Munich air disaster of 1958, in which eight Manchester United players and three club staff were among 23 people killed, while Evra should pay tribute to the Hillsborough victims.

Suarez refused to shake Evra's hand before the start of the last game between

them in February at Old Trafford.

Tributes have been paid to the 96 at Premier League matches since the report was issued with Liverpool's neighbours Everton staging a particularly poignant one before their match with Newcastle United at Goodison Park on Monday. Reuters

US lifts ban on NZ warships, NZ keeps nuclear-free stance

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Obamas head for "The View", Ann Romney bound for Jay Leno

Liverpool win eight-goal match, Vargas hat-trick for Napoli

PAGE 14



Heskey agrees deal to join Australia's Newcastle Jets

PAGE 14

Traditional medicine kits distributed in Labutta



LABUTTA, 21 Sept—Labutta Township Traditional Medicine Department of Ayeyawady Region held a ceremony to distribute Myanmar traditional medicine kits at Yway Nadi Hall in Labutta on 16 September.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thaik made a speech. Next, Head of Township Health Assistsant-1 U Kyaw Naing Oo presented kits to 15 villages and Head of Township TMD Daw Aye Thanda Soe, 10 villages.

Myanma Alin