

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## President U Thein Sein felicitates Chinese President

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Hu Jintao, President of the People's Republic of China.

MNA

## President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Chinese Premier

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

## President U Thein Sein felicitates Cypriot counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Demetris Christofias, President of the Republic of Cyprus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Cyprus, which falls on 1 October 2012.—MNA

## President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to President and Commander-in-Chief of Nigeria

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which falls on 1 October 2012.—MNA

## President U Thein Sein meets UN Secretary-General

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ban Ki-moon at his residence on the Sutton Place Road in New York at 8 am local time yesterday.

At the residence, the President signed in the visitors' book and Mr Ban Ki-moon introduced the President with Mr Joseph V Reed, Adviser to the UN Secretary-General; Mr Vijay Nambiar, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General for Myanmar; Mr Jeffery Feltman, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; Ms Valarie Amos, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; Ms Helen Clark, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator; Dr Babatunde Ostimihin, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund; and Ms Judy Cheng Hopkins, Assistant Secretary-General for Peace Building Support.

Afterwards, they had a breakfast together and discussed matters on further cooperation between the UN and Myanmar and on provision of development aid to Myanmar.

MNA



President U Thein Sein meets Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ban Ki-moon.

MNA



KNLA liaison office opened in Hpa-an

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Overseas employers directly meet with employees to ensure swift and smooth process of official dispatch



PAGE 6

Villa late show snatches Barca win at Sevilla



PAGE 15

## Substitute Bent secures Villa draw against West Brom

LONDON, 30 Sept—Striker Darren Bent came off the bench to score a late equaliser and secure Aston Villa a 1-1 local derby draw at home to West Bromwich Albion in the Premier League on Sunday.

The England international, netting his 150<sup>th</sup> career league goal, fired home 10 minutes from time



Aston Villa's Darren Bent (C) celebrates scoring against West Bromwich Albion during their English Premier League soccer match at Villa Park in Birmingham on 30 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

following a scramble.

Shane Long put West Brom, in sixth place on 11 points, ahead on 51 minutes when he converted James Morrison's low cross from the right. Villa are 15<sup>th</sup> with five points.

The match was the only Premier League encounter on Sunday. Chelsea top the standings, three points ahead of Everton, after a 2-1 victory over Arsenal on Saturday.

Queens Park Rangers host London rivals West Ham United at Loftus Road on Monday (8:00 pm British time).

Reuters



NATIONAL

**Union FM sends felicitations to Chinese FM**

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of

the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

**Union FM felicitates Cypriot counterpart**

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Cyprus, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus.—MNA

**Union FM sends felicitations to Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs**

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Olugbenga Ayodeji Ashiru, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.—MNA



President U Thein Sein being welcomed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. (News on page-1) MNA

**KNLA liaison office opened in Hpa-an**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—The Government is striving for ensuring peace and stability of the State. Yesterday, the Brigades Liaison Office (Hpa-an) of Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) was opened at No 4/500 on Thiri Street in Ward 4 of Hpa-an, Kayin State.

It was attended by Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Speaker of Kayin State



Min, Hluttaw representatives, state ministers,

**Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min presents gift to Chief of Staff of Karen National Liberation Army Mutu Sae Poe.—MNA**

NGOs/INGOs, regiments and units, peace making group members, departmental officials, representatives of political parties, local people, Kayin don dance troupes and students totalling 400.

Union Ministers U Aung Min and U Ohn Myint, the state chief minister, the state Hluttaw speaker and KNLA Chief of Staff Mutu Sae Poe formally opened the liaison office. The KNLA Chief of Staff unveiled the signboard of the office.

The second session of the opening ceremony was held at Kantha U Hall in Hpa-an, Union Minister U Aung Min and KNLA Chief of Staff Mutu Sae Poe

delivered addresses. The Chief of Staff of KNLA and party presented commemorative pennants.

The Union Ministers and officials of Kayin State Government presented gifts, computer, TV, Sky Net receiver, phone, fax phone, medicine and exercise books.

Liaison offices were opened in Kyaukkyi, Dawei, Myawady and Phayathonsu including in KNLA Brigades Liaison Offices in Hpa-an. With liaison offices, officials will meet to strengthen further relationship for eternal peace. The local people are specially delighted at restoring peace in the region.—MNA

**Religious Affairs Minister meets Thai guests**

YANGON, 30 Sept—Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung met Thai scholars at the meeting hall of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees Office for construction of Shwedagon Pagoda Historical Museum. MNA

**District News**

**Inter-Ministry Table Tennis Tournament launched**

YANGON, 30 Sept—With the aim of securing victory in the XXVII SEA Games and turning out outstanding tennis players, the Inter-Ministry Table Tennis Tournament was opened at the hall of Myanmar Table Tennis Federation on U Wisara Road on 27 September.

President of the federation U Kyaw Kyaw made a speech.

The president and officials of the federation enjoyed participation of athletes in the tournament.

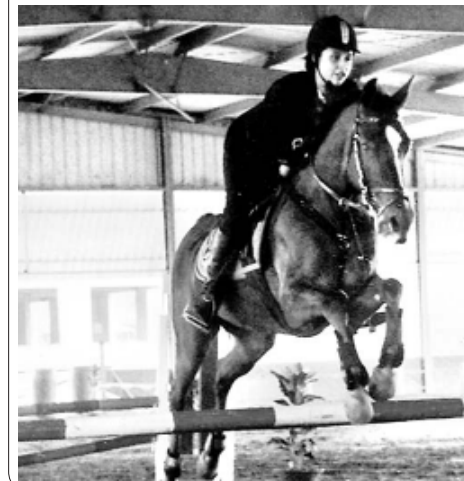
The competition runs from 27 to 30 September.

Myanma Alin



**Equestrian athletes under training**

YANGON, 30 Sept—Three equestrian athletes who secured awards in the XXVI SEA Games and new generation equestrian athletes are taking training at Yangon



Equestrian Club in Dagon Myothit (North) Township as of 22 September with the aim of taking part in the equestrian contests in the region. Myanma Alin

**If you're not going to help me, don't disturb me!**

Dept

Why do you disturb the busy guy?

Nope. I woke up the sleeping one.

Maung Maung Hnyet

**Drive safely**



WORLD

Two Venezuelan opposition activists shot dead **Venezuela**

CARACAS, 30 Sept—Gunmen shot and killed two local leaders of parties backing Henrique Capriles on Saturday in the worst violence of a volatile campaign before Venezuela's election next weekend.

Capriles' party, Primero Justicia (First Justice), said the gunmen fired from a van that witnesses identified as belonging to state oil company PDVSA or the local mayor's office during a rally in the agricultural state of Barinas.

The government of President Hugo Chavez, who is seeking re-election, confirmed the deaths and vowed the perpetrators would be brought to justice. Interior

Minister Tareck El Aissami said the circumstances of the attack were still under investigation.

Venezuela is awash with guns, and violent crime is frequently cited as voters' No 1 concern.

There had been shootings and fistfights in previous opposition rallies as "Chavistas" and Capriles supporters clashed, but no deaths.

"This tragedy gives us more strength and faith to fight for a Venezuela where justice and non-violence reign," said Primero Justicia, the party of one of the victims.

Another two people were injured, and there were six arrests after the attack on



Venezuela's opposition presidential candidate Henrique Capriles (R) talks to supporters during a campaign rally in Valera, in the state of Trujillo on 28 September, 2012.

REUTERS

an opposition motorcade that had been blocked by Chavez supporters, Primero Justicia said in an account not confirmed by police or other authorities.

"I'm so sad at this bad news," Capriles said via Twitter. The opposition Demo-

cratic Unity coalition, which has united Venezuela's opposition parties, demanded a quick investigation.

Aissami said police were doing just that. "It was an isolated incident," he told state TV.—Reuters

Spain to ask for EU aid following floods **Spain**

MADRID, 30 Sept—Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said on Saturday that Spain would ask for aid from the European Union (EU) following the floods which have devastated parts of the south-east of the country over the past 48 hours.

Speaking at a meeting of his Popular Party in the Basque city of Vitoria, Rajoy transmitted his solidarity with the affected families for the "dramatic events," adding they would receive the "support and affection" of the government.

Rajoy said the government would ask the EU for economic aid to try and help the recovery of the area.

Rajoy's words were

echoed by opposition leader, Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba, who said his Socialist (PSOE) Party would take, "all of the parliamentary initiatives possible," to assure the region received aid.

Rubalcaba added he had spoken to the European Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs asking for help. "There are European programmes for this kind of help," confirmed the PSOE leader.

At least 10 people have died, while a further two are missing as a result of the heavy rainfall which has devastated towns in the Provinces of Malaga, Granada, Almeria, Lorca and Murcia.

Xinhua

Iran unveils home-made sniper rifle, tactical vehicle: TV **Iran**

TEHERAN, 30 Sept—Iran unveiled on Saturday a long-range sniper rifle and a heavy tactical vehicle manufactured by its own military experts, Press TV reported.

The Shaaher long-range sniper and Neinava tactical vehicle were unveiled during a ceremony in the Iranian capital Teheran. The ceremony was attended by commander of the Iranian army's ground forces, Brigadier General Ahmad-Reza Pourdastan, said the report.

The 14.5-mm-caliber sniper rifle has an effective range of 3 km, said the report, adding that the weapon, which is 185 cm long and weighs 22 kg, requires three operators for efficient use.

Pourdastan told reporters that the 2.5-ton Neinava tactical vehicle is designed to transport troops and equipment. The vehicle, which boasts a 240-horsepower engine, is 7 metres long, 2.5 metres wide and 2.8 metres high, and can carry up to 5 tons of load on

ordinary roads and 2.5 tons on all kinds of terrain, according to the report.

Press TV reported on Tuesday that a new generation of home-made Saeqeh (Thunderbolt) fighter jets will join Iran's air force fleet before the end of this Iranian calendar year (20 March, 2013). "The new generation of home-made Saeqeh fighter jets is being produced and will soon join the air force fleet under a new name," Deputy Commander of Ira-

nian Air Force Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh was quoted as saying.

The new fighter jets are more advanced than the current ones and have been optimized by the Iranian specialists, he said, adding that the new aircraft can be equipped with enhanced ammunition, smart bombs and modern electronic systems.

Nasirzadeh said Iran's air force is ready to counter any possible threat against the country.—Xinhua



At least one person has drowned and thousands are being evacuated in the southern Spanish city of Malaga, after heavy rains unleashed floods on Friday. The government issued a red alert for the area due to floods. Rescue workers are doing what they can to contain the damage. Residents say their fears grew as the rains intensified, flooding homes and neighbourhoods.—REUTERS

Nuclear site ends security contract following **US** nun's break-in

WASHINGTON, 30 Sept—The government's "Fort Knox" of weapons-grade uranium storage has ended a contract with a unit of an international security firm two months after an 82-year-old nun and other nuclear activists broke into the site.

The managing contractor at the Oak Ridge, Tennessee, site, B&W Y-12, a unit of Babcock & Wilcox Co, said late on Friday it will terminate the contract with WSI Oak Ridge on 1 October. WSI is owned by security firm G4S, which was at the center of a dispute over security at this year's London

Olympic Games. The move came after the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), an Energy Department agency, sent a letter on Friday to B&W Y-12 President Charles Spencer saying it had "grave concerns" about his company and WSI providing security at Y-12, the nation's only site for storing and processing weapons-grade uranium.

The letter recommended that B&W terminate the subcontract with WSI and work with it to take over security operations after the 28 July break-in. The nun, Megan Rice, and two others cut perimeter fences to reach

the outer wall of a building where enriched uranium was stored. The site was shut temporarily after the breach.

An investigation by the Energy Department's inspector general last month found a security camera had been broken for about six months and was part of a backlog of repairs needed for security at the facility. The NNSA repeated on Saturday that Energy Secretary Steven Chu has said the incident was an important "wake-up call" for the entire nuclear complex.

"The security of our nation's nuclear material is the Department's most important responsibility, and we have no tolerance for federal or contractor personnel who cannot or will not do their jobs," said NNSA spokesman Joshua McConaha.

After the incident the NNSA's top security official and two other federal officials were reassigned. In addition, top officials at WSI were removed and officers associated with the break-in were fired, demoted, or suspended without pay.

Reuters



An aerial view of the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee is seen in this US government handout photo released on 3 August, 2012.—REUTERS

NATO soldier, civilian contractor killed by **Afghanistan** Afghan soldier

KABUL, 30 Sept—A NATO soldier, a NATO civilian contractor and several Afghan soldiers were killed by an Afghan soldier on Saturday in eastern Afghanistan, the latest in growing number of the so-called "green-on-blue" insider attacks in the country, the NATO said on Sunday. "An International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service member and an ISAF civilian contractor died following a suspected insider attack in eastern Afghanistan yesterday," the NATO-led coalition or ISAF said in a statement.

"It is also known that there were Afghan National Army (ANA) casualties," it said, adding "a joint ANA and ISAF assessment is underway." The brief statement did not disclose the nationalities of the victims and the exact place of the incident under ISAF policy.

Troops mainly from US have been stationed within the 100,000 strong NATO-led ISAF forces in eastern Afghan provinces. Four US soldiers were killed when a local policeman opened fire on coalition troops in southern Zabul Province earlier this month on 16 September. A total of 51 NATO and US soldiers were killed in about 33 green-on-blue attacks so far this year. Up to 344 foreign soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan in Taliban-led violence and attacks since the beginning of this year.—Xinhua

France's diplomatic shuttle causes mixed reaction in Algeria **France**

ALGIERS, 30 Sept—Top French officials' recent visits to Algeria have raised hopes that President Francois Hollande will have the keys to loosen the blocked relations between the two countries.

Some observers say, however, that such a diplomatic shuttle is no more than a strategic step by financially troubled Paris. "France has never managed to succeed in Algeria, regarding related historic factors," Abdelhamid Mezaache, an economist and political analyst, told Xinhua

in a recent interview.

"In fact, France has always preferred to invest in neighbouring Morocco thanks to facilitation found there in all fields," he said.

However, Mezaache noted that the newly elected Hollande and his leftist government seem to have a new vision in terms of boosting bilateral relations with Algeria, including investment in the North African nation.

In this context, France and Algeria have launched talks to build an assembly

plant for the French automaker Renault in Algeria.

Renault CEO Carlos Ghosn was quoted by French media on Thursday as saying that his company would soon install a plant in the country.

"It is in the interests of Algiers and Paris to sit down and talk about issues of common interest, including the neighboring crisis-hit Mali, in a bid to reach convergence way-out to the crisis, and eventually avoid that Algeria to be affected," Mezaache said.—Xinhua



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Sharp says making adequate volumes of display used in iPhone 5

NEW YORK, 30 Sept—Sharp Corp is making “adequate volumes” of displays it is known to supply for Apple Inc’s new iPhone5, a company executive said, indicating that a possible bottleneck in supplies of screens may have eased.

Analysts had blamed a shortfall in supplies of display for leaving Apple with too few iPhones to meet burgeoning demand at its launch this month. At the end of August three weeks before the new iPhone went on sale, Sharp, which was supposed to be mass producing at its Kameyama plant in central Japan, had fallen behind schedule, a source earlier told *Reuters*.

Sharp, the source said, was struggling to improve low production yields,

raising the question of whether Apple would be prepared to sweeten financial incentives to secure an acceleration of production.

Apple also buys screens from Japan Display and Korea’s LG Display.

Apple began offering the iPhone5 on 21 Sept, selling over 5 million in the first three days, topping the iPhone 4S, which sold more than 4 million units in its first weekend. On the fourth day, Apple said it had run out of its initial supply and many pre-orders were scheduled to go out in October.

“The iPhone 5’s 4-inch low-temperature polysilicon (LTPS) touch-panel display with in-panel switching (IPS) is exceptionally difficult to produce at high yields,” Deutsche Securities analyst

Yasuo Nakane said in a report on 14 Sept.

Nakane estimates iPhone screen capacity at Japan Display and LG Display at eight million a month each, and at six million at Sharp. Displays for Apple’s first lot of new iPhones likely came from only LG and Japan Display, Nakane added.

Sharp and Japan Display do not publicly admit to the relationship even though Apple, in a list of component makers published last year, identified both Japanese companies as suppliers. The Sharp executive made the comment at a press briefing in Osaka, western Japan, speaking on condition he wasn’t identified. (\$1 = 77.6950 Japanese yen).

*Reuters*

## GSAT-10 placed in intermediate orbit by ISRO

Space



An Isro statement said the perigee (nearest point to Earth) of GSAT-10 has been raised from 250km to 16,427 km by using the satellite’s on-board propulsion system for an hour and 55 minutes.—*REUTERS*

CHENNAI, 30 Sept—Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) scientists fired the motors of GSAT-10 communication satellite early on Sunday to raise its orbit in space a day after it was launched.

An Isro statement said

the perigee (nearest point to Earth) of GSAT-10 has been raised from 250km to 16,427 km by using the satellite’s on-board propulsion system for an hour and 55 minutes.

Now in an elliptical orbit with its farthest point 35,759km from Earth, the

satellite will finally be brought to a geostationary circular orbit of 36,000km above equator, so it can remain above the same place on earth continuously.

The satellite with 30 transponders will be fully functional by November, boosting communication, entertainment and navigation facilities.

Sunday’s orbit raising operation began at 4.28am by commanding the satellite from ISRO’s Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan, Karnataka. GSAT-10 is in good health.

GSAT-10 was launched on Saturday onboard Ariane-5 launch vehicle from Kourou, French Guiana. The second orbit-raising manoeuvre is planned for Monday afternoon.—*Reuters*

## T-Mobile USA in \$2.4 billion tower deal with Crown Castle

WASHINGTON, 30 Sept—T-Mobile USA is selling the rights to operate 7,200 of its wireless broadcast towers for \$2.4 billion to Crown Castle International Corp to help fund a network upgrade and reduce debt at its parent Deutsche Telekom.

Crown Castle has the option to pay another \$2.4 billion to buy the towers outright from T-Mobile USA at the end of the lease term for each tower—between 2025 and 2048—under the deal

announced on Friday.

Analysts said it was a good deal for T-Mobile USA, which is spending \$4 billion on a network upgrade. They noted that the company has also been looking to become more financially independent from its parent, which had tried to exit the US market the year before. However, several analysts said that Crown Castle had over-paid, likely because another bidder had pushed up the price. Evercore Partners analyst Jonathan Schildkraut

said the company paid about \$400 million more than he would have liked. “As people start to pull apart the numbers, it doesn’t look that great,” Schildkraut said, but he added that Crown Castle “needed to do it for growth.” Deutsche Telekom said the deal would reduce its debt by about \$2.4 billion or roughly 1.9 billion euros. T-Mobile USA, the No 4 US mobile provider, has been struggling to stem customer losses as it has a tough time competing with bigger and smaller rivals.

It had been trying to raise money from a tower sale since its proposed purchase by AT&T Inc failed late last year because of regulatory opposition. It had also looked into selling the towers in early 2011 before it started the AT&T process. The deal is expected to close in the fourth quarter, according to the companies.

Crown Castle said it expects the towers to generate

## Tech

about \$125 million to \$130 million in adjusted funds from operations before financing costs in 2013. JPMorgan analyst Phil Cusick said that while the price tag was at the high end of his expectations, it was mitigated by Crown Castle’s strong growth outlook for the assets.

Crown Castle said the towers will have enough space to accommodate at least one additional wireless service provider customer on each tower, which would increase the leasing revenue it would receive without significant incremental capital.

As part of the deal, T-Mobile USA committed to maintaining its facilities on the towers for at least 10 years with annual rent increase provisions tied to the consumer price index. T-Mobile USA’s rent includes the rights to complete its network upgrade on these sites.—*Reuters*



## RIM buys itself breathing room for BB10 launch

TORONTO, 30 Sept—Research In Motion Ltd shares jumped on Friday after the embattled BlackBerry maker posted quarterly results that showed it was still able to pull off a surprise as it tackles the formidable task of getting consumers excited over its new smartphone line.

While RIM’s performance gave Wall Street a modicum of optimism, analysts stressed RIM has to now prove that the BlackBerry 10 devices, due early next year, can halt its brand’s downward spiral. That won’t be easy, they said.

“I have to admit they did a very good job making the best out of a really tough situation. You’ve got to give management some credit for that, but they still need to nurse the company back to health,” said Sterne Agee analyst Shaw Wu.

RIM stunned investors on Thursday with stronger-than-expected BlackBerry sales in the quarter ended on 1 September. It even managed to build up its cash reserves, giving it a fighting chance to market the new BlackBerry 10 line effectively, while ramping up production of the

reengineered smartphones.

Investors responded to the rare glimmer of good news for the embattled company by pushing up RIM’s downtrodden share price up by more than 8 percent in afternoon trading on Friday.

Until Thursday’s results, RIM was being written off by analysts because of its failure to keep pace with innovations from rivals such as Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co. Analysts said RIM needs to generate enough excitement about the new devices to be able to sell them at a healthy profit.

RIM’s second-quarter performance also reminded investors that the company still enjoys a strong franchise in emerging markets, where consumers have gravitated to its reliable though outmoded legacy smartphones.

Even though RIM’s aging line-up has lost ground in North America and Europe, the BlackBerry maker managed to top shipment and revenue expectations in its second quarter, thanks largely to strong sales of smartphones in countries like India and Indonesia.

*Reuters*



## Rhone Alpes project wins Solar Decathlon 2012 competition

MADRID, 30 Sept—The house built by the Rhone Alpes team has been named as the winner of the 2012 Solar Decathlon Europe competition held in the Spanish capital city of Madrid.

The Solar Decathlon sees teams from 18 different universities from all over the world build houses which function purely on solar energy. The different houses, which were constructed in the Casa del Campo park in Madrid, had to pass a series of 10 different tests, hence the name Solar Decathlon, in fields such as Innovation, Functionability, Communications, Comfort etc, with the scores from each individual competition added up to find the overall winner.

The Rhone Alpes project went beyond the design of a single house, with the French team developing the concept of a ‘Nano-tower’ which consists of small towers holding an individual dwelling on each floor with the top floor holding a common laundry, a summer kitchen and a community area for residents.—*Reuters*

## Ukraine Internet users forecast to double by 2015

KIEV, 30 Sept—The number of Internet users in Ukraine was expected to nearly double by 2015, Deputy Prime Minister Sergiy Tigipko said on Thursday.

“Now, about 42 percent, or approximately 17-18 million Ukrainians, have Internet access. The prospects are for the number of global web users in Ukraine to grow to 70 percent by 2015,” Tigipko told an international conference on the development of

information technologies here.

Currently, 13 percent of Ukrainians use social networking services, according to the deputy prime minister.

The country’s IT industry had attracted about 1.6 billion dollars in investment so far this year, Tigipko said, adding the government would further encourage private investment in the sector.

*Xinhua*



**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**UN Secretary-General's Message on the International Day of Older Persons**

**1 October 2012**

*"Longevity: Shaping the Future"*

Rapid population ageing and a steady increase in human longevity worldwide represent one of the greatest social, economic and political transformations of our time. These demographic changes will affect every community, family and person. They demand that we rethink how individuals live, work, plan and learn throughout their lifetimes, and that we re-invent how societies manage themselves.

As we embark on shaping the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, we must envision a new paradigm that aligns demographic ageing with economic and social growth and protects the human rights of older persons. We are all — individually and collectively — responsible for the inclusion of older persons in society, whether through developing accessible transportation and communities, ensuring the availability of age-appropriate health care and social services, or providing an adequate social protection floor.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. As the proportion of older persons in society grows, the bold vision it put forward — of building a society for all ages — is more relevant than ever.

Longevity is a public health achievement, not a social or economic liability. On this International Day of Older Persons, let us pledge to ensure the well-being of older persons and to enlist their meaningful participation in society so we can all benefit from their knowledge and ability.

UNIC/Yangon

**Health**



The World Health Organisation (WHO) headquarters are pictured in Geneva.

REUTERS

**WHO says only severely ill should be tested for new virus**

GENEVA, 30 Sept— Doctors should only test people for a new virus if they are very ill in hospital with a respiratory infection, have been in Qatar or Saudi Arabia and test negative for common forms of pneumonia and infections, the World Health Organisation said on Saturday.

The newly discovered virus from the same family as SARS has so far been confirmed in only two cases worldwide, one in a 60-year-old Saudi man who died from his infections, and another in a man from Qatar who is critically ill in a London hospital. The WHO said in a

statement its new case definition was designed "to ensure an appropriate and effective identification and investigation of patients who may be infected with the virus, without overburdening health care systems with unnecessary testing."

The virus is from a family called coronaviruses, which also includes viruses that cause the common cold and SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which emerged in China in 2002 and killed around a tenth of the 8,000 people it infected worldwide.

The WHO says there is so far no evidence to suggest

**China manufacturing activity contracts for 11th consecutive month: HSBC Business**

HONG KONG, 30 Sept— China's manufacturing activity slowed down for the 11th consecutive month, HSBC said on Saturday, while data in September showed that the rate of deterioration eased marginally.

The final reading of the HSBC Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) released on Saturday posted 47.9 in September, up slightly from 47.6 in August, and signaled an 11th successive month-on-month deterioration in Chinese manufacturing sector operating conditions. However, the latest data signaled the rate of deterioration eased marginally.

Data in September signaled a stronger decline in Chinese manufacturing output, as the volume of new

orders fell for the 11th consecutive month. New export orders declined at the sharpest rate in 42 months amid reports of weak international demand, while lower workloads were linked to a fall in backlogs of work.

The rate of reduction in manufacturing output in China accelerated during September,



Chinese factory workers assembling umbrellas.—XINHUA

signaling the strongest contraction since March. A number of respondents that reported a fall in production levels attributed this to lower order volumes as both domestic and international demand weakened.

However, the rate of reduction in new export orders remained stronger than the

decline in overall new orders. Panelists commented on tough trading conditions in a number of key trading markets.

Purchasing activity fell in China's manufacturing sector for a fifth successive month during September. The rate at which input buying declined accelerated to the fastest since February.

As a result, stocks of purchases fell in September at the quickest rate since May, as companies sought to utilize inventories wherever possible in production. Meanwhile, average lead times improved for the fifth consecutive month. Survey respondents reported that muted demand for inputs and fewer orders placed to vendors resulted in quicker delivery times.—Xinhua

**Study finds birth defects down among IVF babies Health**

SUBIACO, (Australia), 30 Sept— Though assisted-reproduction techniques (ART) are known to come with a higher risk for birth

defects, a new review of defect rates in Western Australia shows major birth defects becoming less common over the course of a decade among babies born through ART.

"Changes to clinical practice may be largely responsible with improved (laboratory techniques) leading to the transfer of 'healthier' embryos," suggested Michele Hansen, the lead author of the study and a researcher at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in Subiaco, Western Australia.

Hansen said she and her colleagues wanted to get an update on those rates using a database of all births in Western Australia.

They collected information on more than 207,000 births, including babies conceived through two common techniques, 1,328 by in vitro fertilization and 633 by intracytoplasmic sperm injection, from 1994 to 2002.

The data also included pregnancies terminated due to a defect in the fetus.

Overall, major birth defects, including cleft lip, hip dysplasia and malformations of the heart, abdominal wall and genitals, affected about eight percent of singleton babies conceived by ART, compared to about five percent of babies conceived without assistance.

When the researchers compared the period between 1994 and 1998 to the years between 1998 and 2002, they saw a decline in birth defects over time among babies whose parents used ART.

In the first period, nearly 11 percent of ART babies had a birth defect diagnosed by age six, compared to about 7.5 percent in the second period.

In the journal *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, Hansen calls the results "encouraging," though she can't explain them.

The researchers speculate they could stem from a combination of ART techniques becoming available to a wider swath of the population, and changes in how the techniques themselves are applied.

Reuters

**Thousands of German children sickened by suspected virus**

BERLIN, 30 Sept— Thousands of school children in Germany suffered from vomiting and diarrhoea over the past few days, which were thought to be triggered by contaminated food in schools.

According to Robert Koch Institute (RKI), a federal health agency, more than 4,000 children have been affected since Tuesday evening.

The cases spread across states of Berlin, Brandenburg, Saxony and Thuringia. Some children have been receiving hospital treatment.

All schools affected had received food from a common supplier, indicating that it was a food-borne illness such as norovirus, said the Institute in a statement late Thursday.

But Sodexo, the food supplier, denied that their relevance with the outbreak.

Health and food authorities of national, state and local levels are investigating the cause of the disease.—Xinhua



A health worker fumigates inside a home in Havana on 20 September, 2012. Cuba conducts regular fumigation inside homes to check the spread of dengue, a mosquito-transmitted virus that causes a fever which can be deadly. REUTERS



NATIONAL

Union CPT Minister urges to step up efforts for IT sector development

YANGON, 30 Sept—Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun called on Myanmar Computer Federation and computer associations to make efforts for development of the information and communica-

tion technology joining hands with the government and the people.

In his key-note address delivered at the anniversary ceremony of the Myanmar Computer Federation and computer associations held at the Myanmar Info-Tech here yesterday, the Union Minister also expressed the government's commitments

to development of the ICT sector as it is the basic infrastructure for the development of the economy, education and health sectors of the country, he added.

He also appreciated the collaborative efforts of the federation and computer associations, relevant ministries and IT experts for completion of fiber links and

trans-border links which help not to disrupt the internet connection.

During the ceremony, the Union minister, Deputy Minister U Thaung Tin, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu and responsible officials honoured the outstanding winners of IT examinations.

MNA



Union Energy Minister visits oilfields

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay yesterday visited Mann Thanpayarkan petrochemical industries of Myanama Petrochemical Industry in Minhla Township of Magway Region.

He called for minimizing wastage and misappropriation and meeting standards set by the ministry.

The minister then proceeded to oilwell No. 827 of Htauksharbin oilfield under Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise. He guaranteed the machinery and technical

backing of the ministry for oil exploration while underscoring the need to meet schedule.

He met officers of Htauksharbin, Kanni and Mann oilfields and called for nurturing the attitude of good civil servants.

MNA

Myanmar, Indonesia stage concert

YANGON, 30 Sept—To mark the 67th anniversary of Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia, the Myanmar and Indonesian cultural troupes shared the stage at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, here, yesterday evening.

Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu and wife Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and Region Ministers,

departmental officials, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono and wife, officials and families of foreign embassies in Myanmar and guests.

The Indonesian Ambassador gave a speech and donated cash to the Rakhine State and Pyinsalu Village hospital in Labutta Township, Ayeyawady Region.

After that, Union

Minister U Aye Myint Kyu gave a speech for cash donation in commemoration of the 67th Anniversary of Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia.

Later, the Indonesian Cultural Troupe and the artists of National Cultural and Fine Arts University (Yangon) presented traditional songs and dances.

MNA

Ninth rehabilitation medical conference held

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—The ninth medical conference on rehabilitation was launched at Yadanabon Hall of Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay) yesterday morning, with an address by Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin.

As saying, the Union Minister stressed that Myanmar was recognized, among ASEAN member countries, as the first country that could implement rehabilitation tasks for rural people on its best through

the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Pilot Project carried out in collaboration with WHO since 1980, pointing out that healthy citizens are needed at the time when all Myanmar are duty bound to make efforts for developing the country, and it needs to take preventive measures for not being disability and to give rehabilitation assistance as much as they can if necessary.

Afterwards, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar

Medical Association (Mandalay) Professor Dr Than Win and Chairman of Rehabilitation Medical Association Dr Khin Myo Hla extended greetings.

The Union Minister looked around installation of a new 64 Slice (CT-Scan) at X-ray department, progress of construction of the building to be installed with Linear Accelerator at the cancer department, as well as an additional room of the heart department.

MNA

Overseas employers directly meet with employees to ensure swift and smooth process of official dispatch of Myanmar employees



NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—The in-charges of Canned Fish Factory of I.S.A Value Co, Ltd of Thailand and new Myanmar employees of Today Top Star Workers Training School met at Pinlong Hall of the Labour Department under the Ministry of Labour in Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Region on 28 September and entered into a contract.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General of Labour Department U Myo Aung and officials. Making a speech, Director-General U Myo Aung stressed the need for Myanmar workers to use legal route in going abroad for works in order to be able to avoid human trafficking and not to be

complacent with the status of workers but to study technology, knowledge and language abroad. Only then, will they become skilled workers at a time when foreign investment is flooding the country, he said. He urged the workers to inform the Ministry of Labour when they are in trouble abroad.

Next, those responsible clarified facts to be careful by Myanmar labourers working in Thailand issued by the Ministry of Labour, contents of the contract and official dispatch of labourers to Thailand. Moreover, documentary photos of lectures on pre-on-job training of TTS Workers Training School, Hpa-an were shown. The TTS Workers

Training School is taking systematic measures for official dispatch of workers to Thailand and each worker costs only K 50,000 for training and accommodation. The meal and transportation charges to Myawady check point have to be born by workers.

The Labour Department relaxes the time and work process in the official dispatch of labourers to Thailand. Due to convenience in work process and swift issue of passports at border towns, workers could save the cost of meal and accommodation. The direct signing of contract between overseas employers and Myanmar employees contributes to prevention of human trafficking.—MNA

State Chief Minister inspects rice bags bound for Putao

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai together with Speaker of State Hluttaw U Rawam Jone, Chief Justice of the State High Court U Tu Ja and State Ministers viewed loading of 660 bags of rice onto the

board of F-28 Fokker Jet of Myanmar Airways at 11.30 am yesterday to enable the local people and department personnel to buy rice conveniently.

Kachin State Government has sent 2722 bags of rice up to 23 September to

Putao region by air. Up to now, 3382 bags of rice have been sent to date. Under the leadership of the deputy commissioner of Putao District, the townsenders distributed the bags of rice to local people and staff members.—MNA

Outstanding students awarded in Kungyangon Township

YANGON, 30 Sept—A ceremony to award the outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination for 2011-2012 was held in Kungyangon Township on 23 September morning.

On the occasion, Amyotha Hluttaw representative Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Education, Health and Culture Committee Dr Khin Shwe made a speech. Together with officials, Dr Khin Shwe presented prizes to the students who passed



the matriculation examination in 2011-2012 academic year with flying colours.—NLM



## NATIONAL

## Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Yangon University of Foreign Languages

YANGON, 30 Sept— Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham called for upgrading the standards and improving the quality of the Yangon University of Foreign Languages during his visit to the university today.

At the meeting with the rector and faculty members of the university, the Vice-President highlighted the importance of the role of the university in nurturing the human resources serving the country directly or indirectly.

He stressed the need for improvement of the management skills and capacity of faculty members and role of students to improve the university.

On his visit to the university, the Vice-President was accompanied by Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivers an address at Yangon University of Foreign Languages.—MNA

Lwin, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, deputy ministers and Yangon region ministers.

Dr Lwin Lwin Soe, Rector of the university, reported the Vice-President on strength of the staff and

faculty members of the university, the number of students who are working on thesis, languages and teaching and learning, courses for foreign students, number of students and graduates, courses for Human

Resource Development, services, students-centered teaching methods, talks, sports activities, research works, workshops, security and discipline enforcement, greening and beautifying of the

university.

The Vice-President also stressed the importance of the six languages: English, French, Russian, Spanish, Arabi and Chinese: used at the UN and languages of ASEAN nations and neighboring countries of Myanmar.

He urged the rector and faculty members to draw a plan to provide the university with necessary teaching aids and to learn sustainably so that they can be quality ones who can produce qualified students.

He stressed the need for inviting native speakers via relevant embassies in Yangon.

He also called on faculty members for turning out qualified doctoral degree holders.

After the meeting, the Vice-President and party

visited the Language Laboratories (3) and (5) and observed the skills of students.

He also viewed students learning Thai language at the e-Education Resource Centre and the library.

The Vice-President also met with faculty members at the assembly hall of the university and urged them to work hard to be able to teach the new generation students to become intellectual ones and pledged the government's assistance for the university.

The Vice-President and his entourage inspected the construction of four-storey building.

Afterwards, the Vice-President visited lecture rooms, computer training centres and the Chinese department and gave instructions to officials concerned.—MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham at Yangon University of Foreign Languages.

MNA



### News in Brief Holding Kayah State Day discussed

Coordination meeting to organize 61<sup>st</sup> Kayah State Day was held at the Kayah State government office on 28 September, with an address by State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo. The meeting focused on sales of souvenirs for the Kayah State Day, publishing of magazine, holding of sports events and entertainment of concerts and theatrical dramas.

### Education development seminars held

The Consultation Meeting with Development Partners for the Improvement of Education Sector was held at Ministry of Education on 28 September. Next, Basic Education Sector Improvement Seminar, the Higher Education Sector Improvement Seminar and programmes of educational donor groups to contribution to the education sector followed.

### Women's tailoring course commences

Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation opened the women's tailoring course No 1 at its office in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 September afternoon. The trainees will be provided basic tailoring course and women ware tailoring course from 1 to 26 September.

### Township LBVD opened in Hinthada

Hinthada Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department was opened on 24 September morning, with a speech by Ayeyawady Region Minister for Mines and Forestry U Soe Myint.

### World School Milk Day observed in Pinlebu

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye attended the ceremony to mark World School Milk Day at Myoma 1 and 2 Basic Education Primary Schools in Pinlebu on 26 September and viewed offering milk and snack to schoolchildren.



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon and Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua cut commemorative cake.

(News on page 16)—MNA



# PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 1 October, 2012

## Good governance and international assistance

**In fact, there is correlation between good governance and development aids/assistance. International Monetary Fund-IMF, World Bank, Asian Development Bank-ADB and other international and regional financial institutions demand the materialization of good governance in the countries that receive financial aids, concessional loans or cheap loans and grants from them.**

**Normally, these institutions provide monetary assistance only to countries actually practice good governance, as their concept is "Money follows good governance". Accordingly, grants and aids, concessional loans and cheap loans, and capital and investments flow into countries where good governance flourishes, thereby increasing the volume of public finance.**

**The correlation between good governance and international aids/assistance has two views. The first view is that because of international assistance and aids, governments of recipient countries can focus more on strategic programmes for national development. The second is that international assistance will be more effective only with functioning good governance. There is another assumption saying that governments of the developing or poor countries can give greater concentration on matters such as the rule of law and stability through international assistance or loan write-offs.**

**On the other hand, international aid sometimes breeds bribery and self-seeking leading to hinder and delay development process. Accordingly, there should be development-oriented management mechanism of the governments for the effectiveness of international aids.**

**Since early 1990s, international aids have been focusing on reducing centralism or central control, and judicial and legislative reforms in developing countries. The result is the prevalence of political-economic view over international aids. And this political-economic view is the cornerstone of the idea of good governance that is the dominant factor in developing countries.**

**A good administrative machinery calls for a competent government, a functioning regular legislative body or the parliament, an independent judicial sector, and the separation of power as they are the requirements for the emergence of democratic governing model.**

## 6 Red Snooker Open 12 October

YANGON, 30 Sept—Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports, Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation, Asia Billiard and Snooker Centre (Than Market) will jointly organize the 6 red Snooker Open from 10 am to 5 pm on 17 October.

Reserved prizes will be given to the first, second, third and fourth award winners.

Those wishing to take part in the contest may enlist at Asia Billiard and Snooker Centre (third floor) at Lanmadaw Plaza in Lanmadaw Township, not later than 12 October, dialing 09-7318 4799.

Kyemon

# OPINION

## Mandalay Hill, a natural resort

*Sithu*  
*Dr Khin Maung Nyunt*

အသက်ကလေးရယ်တဲ့ရှည်စေလို၊  
မြန်နွာရေညိုသမီးတဲ့မန်းတောင်ရိပ်ခို၊

ခေါင်းလောင်းသံတချို့ချိုနဲ့၊  
ရွှေဟိုရိုစည်သံတိန်တယ်  
ဘေးရန်ကင်းစေ။

For your life's longevity,  
Shelter under Mandalay Hill's serenity.  
Caressed by cool clear water,  
Of Emerald lake Nandar.  
Resounding sounds of bells so sweet,  
Vibrating echos of golden Bahosi drum's beats.  
Driving out all dangers to retreat.

The above old Myanmar folk song conjures up the geology, geography, ecology, legend and history of Mandalay Hill. With a height of 776 summit above the sea level outcropping from the ground "which is even like the face of a drum", Mandalay Hill is oval in shape, a mile and a half furlong from north to south and 6 furlongs from east to west. The Hill is a jewel by itself. As if attending on this majestic sacred Hill are nine minor hills, surrounding, whose names suggest the minerals they have in store and they tell the legends associated with them. These surrounding hills are (1) Shwe Taung (gold hill) (2) Ngwe Taung (silver hill) (3) Patamy Taung (ruby hill) (4) Seydan Taung (yellow orpiment hill) (5) Myin-thi-lar Taung (realgar or red orpiment hill) (6) Dut-ha Taung (copper sulphate crystal or blue vitriol hill) (7) Yey Hlé Taung (Spring or sprout hill) (8) Kyey-ni Taung (copper hill) and (9) Beloo-ma Taung (Ogress hill). Since Mandalay Hill is in the centre of these nine surrounding hills, it is said that the Hill originally was called "Manda-la Hill" [the central Hill]. There are many stories of Mandalay Hill told by oral history and legends.

*History of Mandalay Hill* compiled by U Khanti, [the Hermit who developed, renovated and embellished the Hill in the British Colonial period and after] and published in 1933, March, contains facts and figures about this Hill. One oral history tells us that a certain young king named "Ugga Thena Dhamma Yaza" from Hanthawaddy came to Upper Myanmar in search of a suitable site for building a town. To the north of Mandalay Hill, he founded a town with the help of his hundred Amats [high officials of the court]. The town came to be known as "Mat Tayr Myo" [Town built by 100 Amats]. This king regularly visited the nearby wooded hill for religious practices and observances such as keeping sabbath and meditation. The local people also went up the Hill for the same purpose. Because the young king frequented it, the public called the Hill "Min Ga-lay Hill" [Young King's Hill]. In course of time "Min Ga-lay Hill" corrupted to sound "Manda-lay Hill". The stone inscription of Yatana Myitzu Pagoda which was built by the forefathers of King Shwe Nan Kyaw Shin [1501 A.D.] mentions this Hill as Man-daray Hill", and says that it was very enchanting and it gave peace and tranquility to the visitors.

Buddhist legends provide different names of Mandalay Hill in different periods. During the lifetime of Kakusanda Buddha the Hill was called "Khina Thawa Pura", in the time of Konagamana Buddha it was called "Way Lar Pura", it was called "Par-da-tha Pura" during Kassapa Buddha's time. It was only in the lifetime of Gotama Buddha that the Hill acquired the name "Mandalay Hill".

Legend has it that Lord Gotama Buddha and his cousin Monk Ananda, accompanied by five hundred arahat disciples made an ariel journey to Mandalay Hill and sojourned on its summit. When Ananda saw Lord Buddha smile, he asked the Buddha the reason of his smile. Lord Buddha explained that the Hill was the abode of his seven previous lives— a lion, a stag, a quail, an iguana, a hunter, an elephant and a rooster. At that time there dwelt on Mandalay Hill an ogress named "Sanda Mukhi". When she saw Lord Buddha she felt so happy and peaceful that she worshipped him, and in a frenzy of devotional ardour she cut off her two breasts and placed them at the feet of Lord Buddha in offering. Whereupon Lord Buddha gave her his Dhamma teachings and told her his divine prophesy that "in the 2460 of Buddhist Era, this place [that is the site of Mandalay Palace city] which he pointed at with his forefinger of his right hand, which was evenly flat like the face of a drum would become a big city named "Yatanapon" [the city of Gems] and "there as a descendant of the great Maha Thamada (the first king of the Universe) shall thou be king of the city." The Hill, so the legend says, is sacred and sublime, very fair in its shape and formation and it possessed any

quality that is good and it is suitable for the abode of noble kings. Because of that divine prophesy of Lord Gotama Buddha, a pagoda was built on its summit and was named "Su Taung Pyi" Zedi [the Pagoda that fulfills your wishes]. The Hill was regarded sacred and taken care of by Myanmar kings.

Myanmar chronicles have records of maintenance, renovation and embellishment works carried out on Mandalay Hill by pious Myanmar kings. King Duttaboung of Sri Kestra City kingdom who ascended the throne in the 101 of Buddhist Era, was in search of his exiled queen "Saw Mya Waddy". When he came upon a spot, not far from Mandalay, he saw Mandalay Hill and he was so fascinated by its sublime beauty that he built "Su Taung Pyi" Zedi on its summit. He also built some rest houses and stairways on the west and south sides of the Hill. King Anawrahta of Bagan [1044-1077 A.D.] on his return from a pilgrimage to the sacred Tooth Relic of Gotama Buddha in Gandalayit [China], made a halt at Mandalay Hill. He built a pagoda on its summit. In 1472 A.D., King Thiha Thura of Inwa dynasty renovated Su Taung Pyi Zedi on its summit and built some rest houses and stairways. In 1805 A.D. the Crown Prince Maha Upra Raja, father of King Bagyidaw [1819-1837 A.D.] renovated the zedi on the summit and embellished it by gilding it and putting a gold hti (decorated umbrella) on its top. A gilt devotional hall and an ornately carved roofed stairways were also built. When the pagoda and other monuments on the Hill fell into ruin, King Bagyidaw repaired and renovated them. He also added four rest houses, one at each of the four sides of the pagoda. At the foot of the east stairway a water tank was dug to supply fresh water for the pilgrims.

When King Mindon [1853-1878 A.D.] decided to found a new capital on the site near Mandalay Hill, it was believed and hailed that the divine prophesy of Gotama Buddha had come true. The legendary ogress Sanda Mukhi had been reborn a human prince who became King Mindon. On Friday, the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1857, the construction of a new palace was commenced. Frequently King Mindon came from Amarapura to the construction site to supervise personally the construction work. During supervision, he found time to visit Mandalay Hill and carried out many development and embellishment works. In May 1858 the construction of the new palace was completed and in May 1859, the moat and battlements were finished.

In that year, the King gave order to the Minister of Gunnery, Lord of Mya Taung Myo to make a lifesize statue of a standing Buddha "Gotama" with the right hand raised and the forefinger pointing at the site of Mandalay palace down below, in the gesture of divine prophesy and a lifesize statue of Ananda in the manner of attendance and attention. The two statues were each carved out of a single enormous teak log and sheltered in the exquisitely carved image house with a gilt wooden spire on its roof located on the south side of the Hill. So these wooden statues were very much larger than life size. The King's son Prince Salin was assigned to the building of a huge gilt and glass mosaic devotional hall in the precincts of Su Taung Pyi Zedi. In 1883 a great fire which broke out in the neighbourhood of Shwe Kyin Myin Pagoda in down town Mandalay spread to Mandalay Hill and consumed all buildings and statues of Mindon's time.

The modern period of the history of Mandalay Hill was associated with the life of one Buddhist hermit named U Khanti [1866-1948 A.D.] because he was the pioneer and main architect of Mandalay Hill development and embellishment programmes in the British colonial time and after. Born of parents U Shwe Hla and Daw Kho U of Ywatha village near Yamethin town, future U Khanti was named  
(See page 9)



## OPINION

### Mandalay Hill,...

(from page 8)

Hpo Maung. He received his early education at the village monastery under the guidance of the monk teacher U Khin Dhamma. At the age of 13, he became a novice in the Holy Order with the name Ashin Khanti. When he was ordained monk, he moved to Mandalay and resided at Shwe Kyin Taik monastery, pursuing Pariyatti and Patipatti Sasanas. After he had obtained 12 Vasas (12 years of ordained age) he became hermit in 1899 A.D.

The cause of his reversion from monk to hermit was his decision to devote his life to the repair and renovation of old religious monuments and construction of new ones. He made that decision after he visited Mandalay Hill in 1897 and saw many religious buildings being ruined by elements of nature and natural disasters. The rules of Vinaya [monk's discipline] are extremely rigid and strict for monks especially in the handling of money and wearing of yellow robes, whereas hermits are not so rigidly bound by religious rules. Encouraged and supported by Minister Kin Wun Mingyi, Head Monk Modi Sayadaw and even Tha-thana-baing [Patriarch of Buddha Sasana], U Khanti the Hermit began taking charge of developing Mandalay Hill in 1907. With the aid of public subscription and donation in cash and kind, the Hermit worked arduously to make Mandalay Hill a place of sanctity and beauty.

At the beginning, U Khanti the Hermit was encountered by two rivals. There were at that time one monk named U Nandiya and one influential lady named San Si Khin Lay. Both were then managing the construction of a statue of standing Buddha Image and development project in Mandalay Hill. When the two fell out, San Si Khin Lay made a lawsuit against the monk U Nandiya who assumed a pretender to King Thibaw's throne. The monk was arrested. When U Khanti appeared on the scene, reconstructing the stairway on the south side, San Si Khin Lay sued the Hermit in the law court on the allegation of intrusion into her domain. But the court finally passed judgement in favour of the Hermit and San Si Khin Lay was expelled from Mandalay Hill. Since then the management of Mandalay Hill development passed under the Hermit's control.

Myanmar public and the British government appreciated U Khanti's works and supported him materially and morally. Money contributions came in not only from the four corners of Myanmar, but also from the four corners of the world— Thailand, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, India, China, Japan, England and Germany.

One English writer who initialled his name R.L.C wrote a booklet entitled *Legend of Mandalay Hill* which was published in 1926 by Upper Burma Adviser Press, Mandalay. In it he gives the lists of completed construction works carried out by the Hermit, not only on Mandalay Hill, but also on other hills and at other places and towns, and their total expenditures. The author also describes the appreciation of the British Government of the Hermit's good deeds as follows:-

"The Government of Burma recognizes his undoubted abilities and good works, for he has been exempted from personal appearance at all Civil Courts. Our very excellent Governor, Sir Harcourt Butler pays a yearly visit to see 'his old friend of Mandalay Hill'. He kindly expressed once a pious wish: "I wish him all prosperity and life for 120 years."

"That wish looks materialising. At the age of 60, up and down the steep steps, daily climb those firm limbs of U Khanti the Yathit."

The old but strong Hermit continued his repairing and construction works even during war time. Bombings by the Japanese and the Allied war planes destroyed or damaged many monuments on the Hill. Towards the close of the war, Mandalay Hill became a battlefield. In spite of these ravages and devastations the Hermit never lost his courage and zeal. He did not evacuate from the Hill but lived on there to keep his dedicated care of the Hill. In the post war period, many war damaged buildings on the Hill were repaired and renovated by him. After nearly half a century of dedicated service given to Mandalay Hill and other similar sacred sites, the aging Hermit at 82 passed away in 1948. His headgear [doucha] is seen in a display room of Munich Museum, Germany.

Among many religious monuments the Hermit con-

structed on Mandalay Hill, the following are prominent (1) Su Taung Pyi Pagoda (2) Beelooma Pagoda (3) Shwe Theindaw Pagoda (4) Quail Zedi (5) Roaster Zedi (6) Elephant Zedi (7) Lion Zedi (8) Iguana Zedi (9) Twenty eight Buddha's cave (10) Myat Saw Nyi Naung Temple (11) the Sacred Relic Chamber (12) the Sacred Tooth Relic Chamber (13) Thit Kanet Buddha Image (14) Su Taung Pyi Buddha Image (15) Naga Yone Buddha Image (16) Ko Khan Gyi Buddha Image (17) Kusina Yone Grove (18) Buddha's Foot Print, down stairs (19) Buddha's Foot Print, upstairs (20) Saing Ta Maw Pagoda (21) Shwe Pyi Aye Pagoda (22) Pyi Lone Chan Tha Buddha Image (23) Pyi Lone Aye Buddha Image (24) Than Budday standing Buddha Image (25) Khin Shwe Wa Buddha Image (26) Two gigantic stylised images of lion at the entrance of the southern stairway (27) The two iron statues of two huge snakes on the summit [these snakes visited the Hermit] (28) an iron statue of nat spirit Mai U in a shrine at the entrance of northern stairway, (29) the Pitaka Taik [library] and (30) the Printing Press at the foot of Mandalay Hill. All these religious monuments, buildings, images and statues depict birth stories of Lord Buddha, or legends of Mandalay Hill. They display the characteristics of Myanmar traditional arts and crafts.

The Hermit's unfinished works were carried over by his pupils and disciples under the supervision of two head monks Wei Lu Win Sayadaw and Atumashi Sayadaw. In 1949, as the two Sayadaw monks became too old to supervise, the Yahan Pyo Ahpwe Chok [League of Young Monk Association] took over the charge of Mandalay Hill. From that year to 1991, almost all war-damaged buildings on the Hill were repaired and renovated. Major works included a new stairway linking Saing Ta Maw Pagoda and Su Taung Pyi Pagoda, flooring of devotional halls in the precincts of Su Taung Pyi Pagoda, with Sagyin marble slabs, gilding of pagodas, and Buddha Images, putting a new hti on Sanda Muni Pagoda, the extension of four devotional halls in the precincts of Quail Pagoda, repairing of water tanks and concrete seats along the stairways.

In April 1991, an all round development committee was formed by the Commander of the Central Command and chairman of Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council. The committee took the charge of Mandalay Hill. With the money contributed by the generous people of Mandalay and other well-wishers, the committee carried out its duties with heart and soul. Su Taung Pyi Pagoda and Beelooma Pagoda were embellished with glass mosaics, and Sacred Relics Chamber and Sacred Tooth Relic Chamber, the Statue of standing Buddha [Divine prophesying Buddha] and the house and Myat Saw Nyi Naung building were renovated. New htis [decorative umbrellas] were put on Su Taung Pyi, Shwe Thein Taw, Beelooma and Khine Shwe Wa Pagoda.

Four noteworthy works carried out by the said committee were firstly the construction of a motor road from the foot of the Hill to the entrance of the house of the standing Buddha Image, completed in June 1991, secondly the installation of an electric lift at the cost of Kyat 12842641/- put into service on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1992. Later an escalator was installed on the eastern side. The aged, the invalid and the handicapped have now easy access to the summit. Thirdly the embellishment of Su Taung Pyi Pagoda which was begun in June 1992 and completed in July of that year entailing an expenditure of Kyat 848,047/-. Fourthly the construction of a new spacious circumambulatory platform at Su Taung Pyi Pagoda completed in 1994. Its inauguration ceremony held on 1-9-1994 was graced by attendance of State leaders, ministers, artists, writers and donors.

Su Taung Pyi Pagoda stands on the highest peak of Mandalay Hill and its location commands the bird's eye view of Mandalay and environ. As you walk around the Pagoda, your eyes catch the breath-taking views of the blue Shan mountain ranges and green fields in the east, the meandering Ayeawady River and the pagoda-dotted Sagaing and Mingun hill ranges in the west, Ratanapon city, reconstructed Mya Nan San Kyaw Palace, the city walls, the battlements, the moat, thriving modern Mandalay town in the south. In the not far distance are seen Sagaing and Mingun hills, Yet Kan Zin hill, Mei U hill, Yan Kin hill, and Ye Tagun hill and the green paddy fields which once Emerald Nanda Lake in the north.

As its legends and history tell us that Mandalay Hill was a sylvan haven for wild life, mammals, reptiles, and avian creatures of quite a variety had in the past made their homes

on this Hill Great grand parents of Mandalay used to talk about natural springs or wells on this Hill which they called "nat yey kan [angle's pond] from where they fetched drinking water during their pilgrimage. Parakeets, doves, cuckoos, coucals, and owls sang hunting or mating songs which they enjoyed and wild flowers which they gathered during Waso and Tabauing festivals. But owing to ravages of war, outbreak of fire, and indiscriminate cutting of trees for fuel, Mandalay Hill was stripped barren. No heed was paid to replenish its natural environment for some time.

The last few decades have restored and replenish Mandalay Hill, thanks to the cleaning and greening activities of the government and the public. Civil, military, all servicemen, adult and young, fully aware of the natural beauty and religious sublimity of Mandalay Hill are participating in the communal greening work to restore nature to Mandalay Hill. Not only the native flora such as Than, Dahat, Byizin, Yin Mar, Padauk, Ingyin, Yin Kat, Tharaphi, Saga, Pon Nyet, Mei Zali, Sein Ban, Ngu, Hta Naung, Tamar, Khatet, Thaphan, Kokko, have come back to the Hill but also exotic species like cherry, orisin, Malaysiapadauk etc are thriving on the Hill, providing cool green shade, flowers fruits and green food for humans and animals.

Mandalay Hill of the two classical ditties Mya Man Giri and Man Taung Let Yar has now re-emerged to provide "shelter for those who wish to live long".

## POEM

### A TRIBUTE TO GRANDPA

- \* O Grandpa!  
You've walked a long and thorny way  
Become old, infirm and frail today  
You've done the best and earned the rest  
Ne'er forget your lap where we have slept.
- \* O Grandpa!  
Present days are not to brood  
May you always be in cheerful mood  
Though you're in your evening of life  
Most of us still value your might.
- \* O Grandpa!  
Your experiences are regarded as gold  
The service you did was bright and bold  
You've left polished imprints on the young  
Your living days are always precious ones.
- \* O Grandpa!  
Though you're excluded from global development,  
Myanmar provides you with humanitarian assistance  
We show sympathy in Myanmar community  
To do so are fine traditions in society.
- \* O Grandpa!  
Care services are given to the aged  
Through home, family and community based  
It's in conformity with Thirty-Eight kinds of Blessing  
Also in keeping with the Buddha's Teaching.
- \* O Grandpa!  
International Day of Older Persons has come around  
It's been celebrated a decade long  
Older persons are vibrant and essential  
More can be done to utilize their potential.
- \* O Grandpa!  
Caring for the aged is for ever  
It bespeaks the Myanmar character  
Senior citizens are still young at heart  
Have due regards with true love.  
May thou live long on this Earth!

Maung Swe Ngae

### Table Tennis Tourney wraps up in Pathein

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—The prize presentation for the Ayeawady Region Chief Minister's Cup Table Tennis Tournament was held at Kothein Gymnasium in Pathein on 27 September.

On behalf of the Chief Minister of the region, Region Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Win Naing presented championship trophies to Pathein Township women's team and Pantanaw Township men's team.

MNA



## WORLD

**Greece sure to get next aid tranche: German magazines** **Greece**

BERLIN, 30 Sept—Greece will receive its next tranche of international aid despite budget shortfalls and slow progress on reforms because the euro zone does not want the country to leave the common currency, two German magazines reported on Saturday.

Athens will resume talks with the 'troika' of international lenders next week on a tranche worth 31 billion euros (\$39.88 billion) needed to avert bankruptcy and a possible euro zone exit.

The Greek government needs a deal so it can push an austerity package through parliament before the next meeting of Eurogroup finance ministers on 8 October.



European, Greek and German flags fly outside the Chancellery in Berlin, on 24 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

"The Greeks will receive a list of reforms which must be approved by their parliament by a fixed date. The money will be released as soon as lawmakers have voted," a Eurogroup source told the *Wirtschaftswoche* business weekly.

It did not say what new reforms would be proposed but said the euro zone was now focused on avoiding a Greek exit.

"The fear of a 'domino effect' in the euro zone is too great (not to release the funds)," a senior EU official told the weekly, referring to possible contagion to other heavily indebted states such as Spain if Greece were to default.

A second report in the *Focus* magazine, citing sources in the European Parliament, also said Greece would receive its tranche.

"The report being drawn up by the 'troika' will turn out in such a way that the money can be paid out," it said.

The troika comprises the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission and the European Central Bank.

Asked to comment on the reports, a German finance ministry spokesman said there had been no change in the situation and that the Berlin government was still awaiting the troika report on Greece.

Germany, Europe's biggest economy and paymaster, has long criticized Greece's failure to sort out its public finances and restructure its economy, but Chancellor Angela Merkel and senior members of her center-right coalition have recently started to stress the dangers of pushing Athens out of the euro zone.

Greece, in its fifth year of recession, wants a two-year extension of its bailout plan, something its finance minister has said would cost up to 15 billion euros of extra funding.

Reuters



A worker works at the construction site of the Anhui section of Hefei-Fuzhou Railway in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, on 29 Sept, 2012.

Workers of the Anhui section of Hefei-Fuzhou Railway and Hefei High-speed Railway South Station stuck to their jobs ahead of the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival, which will fall on 30 Sept this year, and the one-week National Day holiday from 1 Oct to 7 Oct.—XINHUA

**Fire kills eight in Russia's western Siberia**

Moscow, 30 Sept—A fire in an oil processing plant in Russia's Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area in western Siberia has killed at least eight people, the Emergency

Situations Ministry said on Saturday.

Eight other people injured in the accident have been hospitalized, the ministry's regional branch said.

Alarm about the fire was received at around 09:00 Moscow Time (0500 GMT). Earlier reports said only one person was killed in the fire, but later the ministry said eight bodies were found in the debris as of Saturday afternoon.

Preliminary information showed that an explosion triggered the fire in the processing plant, but the cause of the explosion remained unknown.

The fire, engulfing some 4,000 square metres, has already been put out. A probe into the fire has been launched.

Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area abounds in oil and natural gas. More than 50 percent of the oil produced in Russia comes from this area.—Xinhua

**Qatar says worried about value of dollar, euro — CNBC**

RIYADH, 30 Sept—Wealthy Qatar, a major investor in US and European assets, worries that haphazard attempts by countries to shore up their economies could weaken the dollar and the euro, its prime minister said.

"What should happen is we should have a full package with a full strategy to solve the problems," Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani, who also heads the country's sovereign wealth fund, Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), told US financial broadcaster CNBC in an interview aired on Friday.

This month the US Federal Reserve announced a programme of heavy purchases of mortgage-backed securities in an effort

to boost employment, but the US government has so far failed to reassure financial markets that it has an effective plan to cut its budget deficit and boost economic growth.

The European Central Bank has also said it will buy bonds to protect economies from the euro zone debt crisis, but governments of weak countries such as Greece and Spain have not persuaded investors their debts can be cut to safe levels.

Sheikh Hamad said the central banks were right to act to prevent worse crises, but added: "With more printing money, without having a strategy, I believe the value of the money will go down very soon."

He did not give details of the economic measures which he believed Western countries should be taking, but said the risk of further volatility in markets was making investors such as Qatar cautious. Analysts have estimated the size of Qatar's sovereign wealth fund at around \$100 billion (61.8 billion pounds).

"There are some questions with no answer up to now," he told CNBC.

However, Sheikh Hamad added that Qatar would retain holdings of strategic stocks and buy when prices dropped, and that it would continue to make new investments in promising assets.

Reuters



Passengers line to buy tickets at Zhengzhou Railway Station in Zhengzhou, capital of central China's Henan Province, on 29 Sept, 2012. During the Mid-Autumn Festival and Chinese National Day festival, which will last from 30 Sept to 7 Oct, Zhengzhou Railway Station is expected to send 1.2 million passengers, 3.2% more than the same period last year. Passengers who take bus are expected to raise 5% compared with the same period last year, most of whom travel for tour or family reunion.—XINHUA

**Iranian currency value further depreciates under sanction pressure**

TEHERAN, 30 Sept—Iran's currency further lost its value against foreign currency on Saturday.

One US dollar was traded for about 28,800 rials Saturday in Teheran's street market compared with Sunday's rates when one dollar was exchanged for about 24,800 rials.

Iran announced on Monday that it had opened a center under the supervision of the central bank to stabilize the depreciating value of its currency.

The centre started with 24,040 rials as a base value

for one dollar on Monday — the rate was set to be 2 percent below the street market deals. Dollar at the designated value was supposed to be only offered to the import of the country's needed goods.

Since 2012, Iran's currency value has significantly slumped against foreign currencies due to heavy pressure in January brought by the US sanctions on Iran's central bank.

Earlier this month, Iran's currency value depreciated further against foreign currencies in the

street market of Teheran as one dollar was exchanged for about 26,000 rials, the lowest since the beginning of the new Iranian year which started on 20 March, whereas a year ago the same amount was traded for 13,000 rials.

According to analysts, Iranian rial's value suffers further depreciation due to the mismanagement of the country's economic and financial sector and as Western sanctions tighten against Iran's financial, energy and petrochemical sectors over the Islamic republic's disputed nuclear programme.—Xinhua

**Israel PM tells coalition partners to back budget or face poll**

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

JERUSALEM, 30 Sept—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has told his coalition partners he will have to call an early election if they do not back a "responsible" budget he must present by the end of the year.

Netanyahu said he would

start meeting coalition partners after he returns home from New York on Sunday. Failure to pass the budget by 31 December would mean bringing forward a national ballot currently scheduled for October 2013.

"I'm sorry to say that it depends on each and every (coalition member)," Netanyahu told Israel's Channel 1 television in an interview recorded in New York on Friday and aired in Israel on Saturday night.

Netanyahu travelled to the United States where he

addressed the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, with Iran's nuclear programme the highlight of his speech.

"I need a responsible budget and I am saying to my coalition partners: if you are going to go all the way (with me) and don't only pay lip service ... then there will be a responsible budget, but if I will see that this is not the case we will have to call elections. I hope that they will go for the responsible (option)," the Israeli leader said.

Reuters



**REGIONAL**

**China's most advanced research ship**

**Neighbour**

**delivered**

QINGDAO, 30 Sept—China's most sophisticated research vessel — named *Kexue*, or *Science* — was delivered to its operator on Saturday in Qingdao, a port city in eastern Shandong Province.

The 87.5-million-US dollar ship, manufactured by the Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Co, Ltd based in Hubei Province, was handed over to the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS).

Weighing 4,711 tonnes, the vessel is 99.8 metres long and 17.8 metres wide. With a

cruising capacity of 15,000 nautical miles and a top speed of 15 knots, it can travel with 80 members for 60 days.

*Kexue* features better stability and a larger laboratory space as well as having more manoeuvrability in comparison with other Chinese research vessels, said Sun Song, director of the IOCAS. He added that the vessel is among the world's most advanced research ships.

Capable of global voyages and all-day observations, the ship is seen as a moving laboratory on the sea.

It will serve as one of the key vessels for the country's oceanographic studies for the next 10 to 20 years, with world-leading facilities for scientific detection and experiments, Sun said.

*Kexue* is designed to conduct a wide range of tasks, such as water body detection, atmospheric exploration, deep-sea environment exploration and remote sensing information verification.

The construction of the ship began in 2010 and launched in November last year for trials.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 29 Sept, 2012 shows the comprehensive research vessel, the *Kexue* (*Science*), in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province. The 99.6-metre-long and 17.8-metre wide ship was put into service on Saturday. Powered by a podded electric propulsion system, the *Kexue* consumes less power, creates less noise and vibration, and is able to move at continuously varying speeds of up to 15 knots.—XINHUA

**Pakistan foils 25 kg heroin smuggling to Britain** **Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD, 30 Sept—Pakistan's anti-narcotics officials on Saturday seized 25 kilograms heroin that were booked for the UK from Islamabad, officials said.

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) said the heroin was concealed in garments and crockery.

The consignment was booked in cargo at Benazir Bhutto International Airport Islamabad, they said.

Three persons, including Cargo Booking Agent Bashir Ahmed, were arrested who were sent to the ANF center for interrogation.

Identity of two other suspects was not disclosed in view of preliminary investigation to find out if they have other accomplices, officials said.

According to the anti-narcotics body, the heroin being smuggled is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars in the international market. This is the second seizure of heroin by the ANF at the Islamabad airport. Nearly six kg of heroin was recovered from a passenger earlier this month.—Xinhua

**Philippine gov't strengthens security in Metro Manila amid fresh travel warning from US** **Philippines**

MANILA, 30 Sept—The Philippine government assured on Saturday that foreign nationals, particularly Americans, shall remain safe in Metro Manila despite a fresh travel advisory released by the United States embassy calling its citizens to exercise extreme caution while in the metropolis.

Deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte, in an interview over state-run

radio station, said the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) has further beefed up security in Metro Manila to ensure peace and security.

"We spoke with General (Leonardo) Espina of the NCRPO yesterday and security has been augmented since yesterday. So, even before that news came out, the NCRP has already augmented the security, particularly to the US facility

along Roxas Boulevard," Valte said.

The US Embassy in Manila has advised its citizens that a threat against American citizens in metropolitan Manila, specifically the Pasay City neighbourhood, has been detected by reliable security forces. The US Embassy said in its statement that the threat remains in effect until 10 October, 2012.

Xinhua



Local people select snacks during the annual harvest festival in Riga, Latvia, on 29 Sept, 2012. XINHUA

**Small states need stable, peaceful international system**

**Singapore**

UNITED NATIONS, 30 Sept—Singapore on Saturday stressed the importance of creating a stable and peaceful international system for small states to feel a collective sense of security.

At this time, "the global governance structure is fragmented and coordination is difficult," said Singaporean Minister of Foreign Affairs K Shanmugam at the General Debate of the UN General Assembly, which opened here on Tuesday.

Singapore is a small state that is vulnerable "even at the best of times. And these

are not the best of times," he said.

Therefore, it is important to be "in an international environment where inter-national law and institutions based on law can flourish" and dialogue can be used because "the parameters of the dialogue among states become crucial," he added.

The minister noted that it is also the responsibility of small states to "speak up against its violations," to achieve a collective sense of security.

There are "major

beneficiaries of a stable international system," he said. "We need a predictable and stable, rule-based international system in order to survive."

According to him, this year, the 105-member Forum of Small States (FOSS) will commemorate its 20th anniversary with a High-Level Conference on Small States on 1 Oct, which will discuss the role of small states in international relations, peaceful settlement and commitment to the rule of law.

Xinhua

**16 Taliban militants killed in one-day operations in Afghanistan**

**Afghanistan**

KABUL, 30 Sept—A total of 16 Taliban militants have been killed in military operations in Afghanistan within the past 24 hours, the Afghan Interior Ministry said on Sunday.

"Afghan national police, Afghan army, intelligence agency and the NATO-led coalition forces launched 10 joint cleanup operations in Sar-e-Pul, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Wardak, Logar, Herat, Farah, Ghor and Helmand Provinces, killing 16 armed Taliban insurgents and detaining 22 others over the past 24 hours," the ministry said in a statement.

They also found and seized weapons, the statement said, without saying if there were any casualties on the side of security forces.

Up to 10 insurgents were also injured in the raids, it said.

However, the Taliban insurgent group, which announced the launching of an annual spring offensive from 3 May against Afghan and about 100,000 US and NATO forces, has not to make comments yet.

Xinhua

**Two killed after ship with 52 people on board sinks in Indonesia** **Indonesia**

JAKARTA, 30 Sept—A wooden ship with 52 people on board sank in waters of Indonesia on Friday evening, killing two people, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman of the national disaster management and mitigation agency said.

The newly-made ship sank during a test for sail in waters off Palue town of East Nusa Tenggara after it was hit by huge waves, Sutoppo told *Xinhua* by phone.

Fortunately, the rest 50 people were rescued by local sailors, the agency staff and volunteers, he said.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 29 Sept, 2012 shows a racing car independently developed by students from Nanjing University of Science and Technology at the 2012 Nanjing International Auto Expo in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province. The seven-day exhibition, which kicked off here Saturday, showcased more than 900 vehicles from 65 manufacturers.—XINHUA



**Explosions at chemical plant in western**

**Japan kill one**

**Japan**

OSAKA, 30 Sept—Explosions at a chemical factory in Hyogo Prefecture of western Japan, killed one people and injured dozens of others on Saturday afternoon, local press reported.

The explosions occurred as firefighters were trying to control a fire that broke out at Nippon Shokubai Co's plant in Himeji, Hyogo Prefecture at around 2:05 pm local time. A 28-year-old firefighter died of burns all over his body, while more than 30 others were injured. Among the injured, several sustained serious injuries.

The first explosion occurred at around 2:40 pm at a tank for manufacturing acrylic acid, and was followed by another blast shortly afterward, according to the report.

Xinhua



## BUSINESS &amp; ADVERTISEMENT

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## Spain debt rises on aid to banks, regions, finance cost

MADRID, 30 Sept—Spain's debt levels are set to rise next year, piling pressure on the government to apply for aid as it pours funds in to cash-strapped regions, an ailing banking system and rising refinancing costs, its budget showed on Saturday.

Spain's debt as a ratio of gross domestic product will reach 90.5 percent by end 2013, according to the document presented to parliament for approval, almost three times that registered before the property bubble burst in 2008.

The budget aims to make savings of around 13 billion euros (\$16.7 billion) next year, largely by deepening already unpopular cuts in public sector wages, education, health and social services, fuelling anti-austerity protests.

"This is an austerity budget, but will serve to help us get over this long economic crisis and once again show that Spain is a trustworthy partner within Europe," Treasury Minister Cristobal Montoro told journalists after delivering the budget.

Spain is at the centre of the euro zone debt crisis as nervous investors demand ever higher premiums to hold Spanish debt on concerns the government cannot control its finances in the midst of a deepening recession.

Calls by wealthy northeastern region Catalonia for independence and the rising number of demonstrations on

## China calls for dynamic balance in trade with France

**China**

BEIJING, 30 Sept—China on Saturday called for stronger pragmatic cooperation with France and a dynamic balance in bilateral trade.

"China and France should deepen pragmatic cooperation in the fields of high-tech, health and urbanization, as well as on particularly big projects, and help bilateral trade move toward a dynamic balance," Vice Premier Li Keqiang said in a meeting with the French president's diplomatic advisor Paul Jean-Ortiz on Saturday.

Jean-Ortiz is leading a delegation to Beijing for the annual China-France consultations, which he and Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo co-chaired on Saturday morning.

Li conveyed the greetings of Chinese President Hu Jintao and other Chinese leaders to French President Francois Hollande.

China and France are both important countries in the world, with extensive common interests and ground for cooperation, Li said.

"Under the circumstances of a changing international order and a sluggish global economic recovery, stronger China-France cooperation and new progress in the countries' all-around strategic partnership will go beyond the bilateral scope," Li said.

The vice premier called on the two countries to take a long-term perspective, respect each other's core interests and major concerns and expand common ground and coordination on international issues.

Li said China is glad to see the European Stability Mechanism, an international organization that provides financial assistance to eurozone members in financial difficulty, to take effect and will continue to participate in resolving the European debt issues in multiple ways.

Li expects France to exert its power within the European Union and promote the development of China-Europe relations.—Xinhua



Visitors watch black paper fans at the first China fan art festival in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 29 Sept, 2012. The festival which kicked off here on Saturday displayed more than 2,000 items including handmade fans and tools.—XINHUA

## Nigerian parliament speaker: diplomatic row with Saudi Arabia to be resolved amicably

**Nigeria**

KEBBI, 30 Sept—Speaker of Nigeria's parliament Aminu Tambuwal on Saturday said the ongoing diplomatic row with Saudi Arabia over deportation of some female pilgrims would be resolved amicably.

Tambuwal who heads the government's delegation appointed to resolve the matter told reporters here that concerted efforts were being made for the Nigerians to still perform the pilgrimage.

"I will be heading to Saudi Arabia on Saturday night to ensure the dispute is resolved as soon as possible," he said, adding the cordial relations between Nigeria and Saudi Arabia will pave way for peaceful resolution.

Appealing to the prospective pilgrims to exercise patience as the matter would be resolved

to enable them to attend the religious function, Tambuwal said government of both countries had been meeting on the dispute.

More than 750 Nigerian female pilgrims in Saudi Arabia adjudged by the authority to be without male companion have been detained in Jeddah and Madinah in the past one week.

Saudi Arabian authorities on Wednesday deported 159 Nigerian pilgrims for the 2012 hajj to Mecca, over irregular papers and subsequently repatriated more on Thursday.

The deportees were returned to the West African country through Med-View and Max Air airlines, which had earlier transported them to Saudi Arabia for the exercise.

Xinhua



Spain's Treasury Minister Cristobal Montoro stands in front of a screen showing a document with a Quick Response (QR) code, representing the first draft of Spain's 2013 budget, during a ceremony at Parliament on 19 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

the streets of major cities have stoked doubts Spain can fix its problems without help.

Thousands of protesters gathered on Saturday in Madrid's Neptune plaza, between the Prado Museum and Parliament, for a third time this week to vent anger at politicians they accuse of pillaging the welfare state to bail out badly-run banks.

"This has to change. We have to show them we are not an anti-system minority but represent Spain's discontent and we are many.—Reuters



A model presents a car at the 2012 Nanjing International Auto Expo in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 19 Sept, 2012. The seven-day exhibition, which kicked off here on Saturday, showcased more than 900 vehicles from 65 manufacturers.—XINHUA

## Netizens to snub visitor attractions despite price cuts

**China**

SHANGHAI, 30 Sept—China's top economic planner has released a second group of visitor attractions that will have their entrance fees cut, a day before the eight-day holiday. However, the move has received the cold shoulder from Chinese netizens who have complained that tickets remained exorbitant.

The second list, released Saturday, includes 94 sites nationwide with 14 classified as 5A areas, China's top scenic spots. The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) released the first group of 80

sites earlier this week.

Famous scenic spots like the Yulong Jokul, the Wudang Mountain and the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden will lower their ticket prices during the holiday period, according to the NDRC.

The commission said the move is to ensure the public enjoy the holidays of the National Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival starting from 30 September.

However, netizens vented their anger online, complaining that most of the sites on the list are not popular ones.

"I've never heard of some

of the sites on the list except the Bagong Mountain," said a netizen from east China's Anhui Province with the screen name of "Kubidixingqisan" at the Sina Weibo, a popular Twitter-like microblogging service.

Criticism appeared shortly after the release of the first list, which was ironically dubbed a "brochure of China's unknown scenic spots."

Netizens found that some spots on the first list were already free.

The NDRC had said sites on the second list would be "more recognized" but it still excited few.—Xinhua



ENTERTAINMENT



Singer George Strait performs at the 43rd Annual Academy of Country Music Awards show in Las Vegas, Nevada on 18 May, 2008.

REUTERS

NASHVILLE (Tenn), 30 Sept—"King of Country" George Strait announced his final tour on Wednesday, but said he wasn't retiring and would go on making records for as long as he could.

"Cowboy Rides Away" as George Strait announces final tour

"I've decided I'm not going to tour anymore after these next two years," Strait, 60, told a news conference at Nashville's Country Music Hall of Fame.

"Don't think I'm retiring because I'm not. I'm still going to make records as long as the label will let me. I'm going to write," the "Easy Come, Easy Go" singer said.

He added that he might do one-off performances and special events in the future, but said that "as far as a structured tour goes, after the last date in 2014 that will be it for the touring."

The "Cowboy Rides

Away" tour will kick off on 18 January in Lubbock, in the singer's home state of Texas. It ends its first leg in Strait's hometown of San Antonio, Texas on 1 June. Country singer Martina McBride will join Strait on the 2013 leg of his tour. Dates for 2014 have not yet been announced.

Strait has notched up 59 number one country singles, including "Unwound," "I Saw God Today," and "How 'Bout Them Cowgirls," and sales of more than 65 million albums in his 30-year career.

But he said he always had in the back of his mind

that when he turned 60 - as he did in May - it might be time to start thinking about coming off the road.

"I didn't want to book a tour and nobody came. It was important to me to pick that time (to quit touring) rather than go that long when something like that started happening," he said on Wednesday.

Strait also said he could change his mind down the line. "I believe I made the right decision but only time will tell. In 2016 I might say 'what a dummy!' And if that's the case maybe I'll reconsider."—Reuters



French centenarian Robert Marchand reacts after he set a record for the fastest 100-year-old to cover 100km (62 miles) at the outdoor Tete-d'Or Velodrome track in Lyon on 28 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

Rowling's adult novel lacks magic, some critics say

LONDON, 30 Sept—JK Rowling's first foray into adult fiction was bound to be compared to her wildly successful Harry Potter series, and, while "The Casual Vacancy" has earned mixed reviews, for some critics the magic has worn off.

The Casual Vacancy, which hits the shelves on Thursday, looks destined for the top of the bestseller lists whatever the reaction, with Rowling's celebrity status guaranteeing public anticipation and media attention in equal measure.

In the New York Times, Michiko Kakutani likened some of Rowling's small-



A woman poses with a copy of author J.K. Rowling's first adult fiction book The Casual Vacancy after it went on sale at a bookshop in central London, on 27 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

minded, snobby characters to the odious Dursley family from the Harry Potter tales.

"One can only admire her gumption in facing up to the overwhelming expectations created by the global phenomenon that was Harry Potter," Kakutani wrote.

"Unfortunately, the real-life world she has limned in these pages is so willfully banal, so depressingly cliched that 'The Casual Vacancy' is not only disappointing — it's dull."

Other critics were less

damning, however, and several reviews in British and US newspapers argued that, while not great, Rowling's eagerly anticipated break from the world of child wizards and witches was good.

"The Casual Vacancy is no masterpiece, but it's not bad at all: intelligent, workmanlike, and often funny," said Theo Tait in the Guardian newspaper.

"The worst you could say about it, really, is that it doesn't deserve the media frenzy surrounding it. And who nowadays thinks that merit and publicity have anything to do with each other?"—Reuters

French centenarian wins 100 km cycling challenge

LYON, 30 Sept—A French centenarian became the fastest cyclist of his age on Friday when he covered 100 km (62 miles) at an average speed of just over 23 km/h.

Robert Marchand, a former fireman and boxing enthusiast from Paris, who will celebrate his 101st birthday in November, had been training every day for months to cross the finish line in under five hours.

"I did better than expected," he told reporters at the velodrome in Lyon, southeast France, where he completed the 300 laps in 4 hours, 17 minutes, 27 seconds, averaging 23.305 km/h.

Marchand's uncommon vitality has piqued the interest of scientists at the Inserm public research institute who have examined him every three months to try to understand the secret to his longevity.

The wiry centenarian, who weighs in at just 51 kg (112 lbs), says he never smoked, but otherwise indulged a healthy appetite for wine and women throughout his life.

Reuters

Original Mona Lisa" given Geneva launch

GENEVA, 30 Sept—A Swiss-based art foundation on Thursday unveiled what it argues is Leonardo da Vinci's original "Mona Lisa", backing its claim with evidence from a US research physicist, a forensic imaging specialist and a top Italian expert on the artist.

Members of the group told a packed Geneva news conference that the portrait of a woman who appears to be some 10 years younger than the sitter in the famous painting in the Paris Louvre could only be the work of the Renaissance genius.

"The facts are overwhelming and clearly prove the authenticity of the masterpiece," said Swiss lawyer Markus Frey, president of the private Mona Lisa Foundation which

insists it has no financial stake in the painting.

And Stanley Feldman, an art historian and member of the group, said that critics who have rejected any suggestion the "younger" version could be by Leonardo had never seen it. "We invite them to Geneva to study it themselves," he added.

"It is absolutely clear that neither this nor the Louvre version are copies," he said, in a clear response to British Leonardo authority Martin Kemp, who told a London newspaper last week "so much is wrong" with the foundation's painting, including that it is painted on canvas and not on wood, the artist's preferred medium.

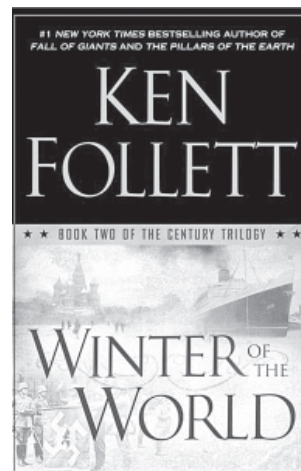
In a luxurious 300-page publication devoted to research over 30 years on what has long been known as the "Isleworth Mona Lisa," the foundation argues that it was painted between 1503 and 1505 in Florence and never finished.

Alessandro Vezzosi, director of the Leonardo museum in the Renaissance giant's home town of Vinci in central Italy and a world-renowned expert on the artist, said he had long believed in the existence of two Mona Lisas.

The foundation's version — which has been owned since 2008 by a private consortium — seemed likely to be the one that was recorded in a recently discovered document from 1503 and which he had long been seeking, said Vezzosi.—Reuters



Professor Alessandro Vezzosi, Director of the Museo Ideale Leonardo da Vinci, points to details on a painting attributed to Leonardo da Vinci and representing Mona Lisa during a presentation in Geneva on 27 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS



Cover of Ken Follett's "Winter of the World"

NEW YORK, 30 Sept—Ken Follett's "Winter of the World" debuted at the top spot on Publishers Weekly's bestseller list on Thursday.

The list is compiled using data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide.

Hardcover Fiction Last Week.

1. "Winter of the World" by Ken — (Follett Dutton, \$36.00)
2. "A Wanted Man" by Lee Child 1 (Delacorte,

"Winter of the World" debuts on top of US bestseller list

3. "The Time Keeper" by Mitch Albom 2 (Hyperion, \$24.99)
  4. "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn 5 (Crown, \$25.00)
  5. "Low Pressure" by Sandra Brown — (Grand Central, \$26.99)
  6. "Zoo" by James Patterson/ Michael 4 Ledwidge (Little, Brown, \$27.99)
  7. "Severe Clear" by Stuart Woods — (Putnam, \$26.95)
  8. "Delusion in Death" by J.D. Robb 3 (Putnam, \$27.95)
  9. "The Tombs" by Clive Cussler 6 (Putnam, \$27.95)
  10. "Telegraph Avenue" by Michael 7 Chabon (Harper, \$27.99)
- Hardcover Nonfiction
1. "No Easy Day" by Mark Owen 1 (Dutton, \$26.95)
  2. "I Declare: 31 Promises to Speak" by — Joel Osteen (FaithWords, \$21.99)
  3. "The Price of Politics" by Bob 2 Woodward (Simon & Schuster, \$30.00)
  4. "Guinness World Records 2013" 4 (Guinness World Records)
  5. "Divine Healing Hands" by Zhi Gang 3 Sha (Atria, \$29.95)
  6. "Joseph Anton: A Memoir" by Salman-Rushdie (Random House, \$30.00)
  7. "Killing Lincoln" by Bill O'Reilly & 7 Martin Dugard (Holt, \$28.00)
  8. "The Oath: The Obama White House" by - Jeffrey Toobin (Doubleday, \$28.95)
  9. "Free Market Revolution" by Brook/ - Watkins (Palgrave Macmillan, \$27.00)
  10. "Obama's America" by Dinesh D'Souza 5 (Regnery, \$ 27.95).
- Reuters



## SPORTS

## Chelsea's Terry is not a racist, says

## Mourinho

LONDON, 30 Sept—Former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has jumped to the defence of the club's captain John Terry, saying he is not a racist.

Terry was given a four-game ban by the English FA on Thursday after being found guilty of racially abusing Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand in



Former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho

a Premier League match last season.

Former England skipper Terry, who retired from international football last Sunday, is yet to decide whether to appeal.

"Chelsea had a squad in which we had 12 African players," Real Madrid manager Mourinho, who led Chelsea to two Premier League titles, said in an interview with CNN shown on Saturday.

"It was a fantastic squad and he had always a great relation with every one of them. Please don't say he is a racist, because I know what I am saying.

"(Former Chelsea players) Didier Drogba will say, Geremi will say, Claude Makelele will say, all of them will say he is not a racist."

Terry was cleared of racism in a court of law in July but the FA's decision

to press ahead with their own case against him was followed by his decision to quit playing for his country.

While supporting his former skipper, Portuguese coach Mourinho did not try to deny that Terry had abused Ferdinand.

"It can happen that during a football match — because sometimes it's more than a game — sometimes you have reactions that don't represent what you are really," Mourinho said.

"Probably, he had a racist comment or attitude against an opponent and, sometimes in football, we look to our opponents in the wrong way. But to pay, he has to be punished."

Terry played in league leaders Chelsea's 2-1 victory at Arsenal on Saturday because his ban will not take effect until he has decided whether to appeal.—Reuters

## Soccer

## Hodgson knighted in Finland for services to football



English national team coach Roy Hodgson

LONDON, 30 Sept—England's globetrotting coach Roy Hodgson has been knighted in Finland for helping the minnows put their name on the football map.

Hodgson, appointed England coach in May, managed the Nordic nation from January 2006 to November 2007 when they came agonisingly close to qualification for a first major tournament at Euro 2008.

"Roy's time as the manager of Finland lifted the level of Finnish football culture and made Finland

internationally better known as a football nation," Finnish ambassador to Britain Pekka Huhtaniemi said on the English FA's website (www.thefa.com) on Saturday.

Finland reached their highest ever FIFA ranking of 33 and were just one goal away from qualifying for Euro 2008 under Hodgson, when a victory over Portugal in their last qualifier rather than a 0-0 draw would have put them through.

"I enjoyed my life (in Finland) very much. Not only in football, but outside of it as well. I hope that my

relationship with Finland, which is already great, becomes even greater," said the 65-year-old Hodgson.

The England boss has plied his trade in club football in Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, England, Norway and Denmark, is fluent in multiple languages, has won eight league titles and has also coached the national sides of Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates.

"Roy brought with him a higher degree of professionalism and more disciplined style of playing," added Huhtaniemi.

Finland, now at their lowest ever ranking of 96 and coached by Mixu Paatelainen, are grouped with World and European champions Spain and 1998 World Cup winners France in their tough 2014 World Cup qualifying pool.

Reuters

## Tennis Petrova stuns Radwanska to win Tokyo

TOKYO, 30 Sept—Russia's Nadia Petrova upset defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska 6-0, 1-6, 6-3 in the Pan Pacific Open final on Saturday to complete a sensational run at the Tokyo tournament.

It was the 30-year-old's second title of the year after winning a Wimbledon warm-up event in Den Bosch, the 12th and also most prestigious of her career.

"The first and third sets were perfect tennis from my side," Petrova told reporters after winning the WTA premier five event, which featured nine of the world's top 10 women.

"It's the biggest tournament I've ever won," added the Russian, who is set to rise from 18th in the world to 14th. "I never expected I would be in this position. It feels amazing."

Petrova inflicted the dreaded 'bagel' on third seed Radwanska in the first set, taking it with a blistering ace down the middle to rub salt in the wounds.

The Pole quickly turned the tables but Petrova produced some superb tennis in the decider, closing out proceedings with a drive volley before sinking to her knees in delight.

Petrova, who beat top 10 players Sara Errani and Samantha Stosur on her way to the final, enjoyed her best season in 2006 when she won five tournaments.

Winning the \$2.16 million hardcourt event earned Petrova \$385,000.

Radwanska, close to tears during her post-match speech, was left to rue two double-faults in a row which cost her the eighth game of the third set, and ultimately

the match.

"I was pissed," said Radwanska, who furiously smashed her racquet on the court after gift-wrapping Petrova a 5-3 lead in the decider.



Nadia Petrova of Russia poses with her victory trophy after defeating Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland in their final match at the Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament in Tokyo on 29 Sept, 2012. REUTERS

"It's always emotional in a final. It was a weird match, like a rollercoaster. That's women's tennis. You

never know what is going to happen so you have to fight until the end."

Reuters

## Schumacher to take time over future — Brawn

BRACKLEY, 30 Sept—Michael Schumacher could play a role with Mercedes next season but will probably take time to consider his options after losing his Formula One race seat to Lewis Hamilton, principal



Mercedes Formula One driver Michael Schumacher of Germany

Ross Brawn said on Friday.

Mercedes announced earlier that Hamilton, McLaren's 2008 champion, had signed a three-year deal and will replace 43-year-old Schumacher in 2013.

The news may have signalled the end of Schumacher's unremarkable comeback but Mercedes refrained from saying the seven times world champion would be retiring as a result of the decision.

"I think Michael's going to take a few months to think about things and reflect on things, to decide what to do

in the future," Brawn told Reuters Television in an interview at the team's factory in central England.

"Michael's been undecided for some time now in what to do," added the Briton. "As Michael has been contemplating what he was going to do, then the opportunity to have Lewis join the team gradually increased, gradually grew to the point where we had to come to a conclusion.

"Michael's very happy for the team but I think he is going to spend the next few months thinking about what

## Mortor Racing

he is going to do.

"There are opportunities within the team, within Mercedes for Michael to stay involved in some capacity or other, and he's particularly interested in developing high performance cars, that sort of thing."

Sauber have a vacancy after Mexican Sergio Perez was announced as McLaren's replacement for 27-year-old Hamilton but it remains to be seen how much interest there is in signing a driver that some believe to be too old for the sport.

Reuters

## Woods back in lineup at Ryder Cup Golf

MEDINAH, (Illinois), 30 Sept—Tiger Woods was recalled to the US Ryder Cup lineup for Saturday afternoon's fourball matches after being benched for the morning session.

The former world number one and his playing partner Steve Stricker were given the morning off after losing both of their matches on Friday.

But US captain Davis Love III gave the pair another chance after the American team opened up a commanding 8-4 lead halfway through the second day at Medinah Country Club.

With the luxury of being in front, Love was able to keep all his pairings together over the first two days and give each partnership at least one session off to conserve their energy for Sunday's concluding singles.

Woods and Stricker will take on Spain's Sergio Garcia and Englishman Luke Donald in the second of Saturday's

fourball matches. Like the Americans, Donald and Garcia were also beaten in their first two matches.

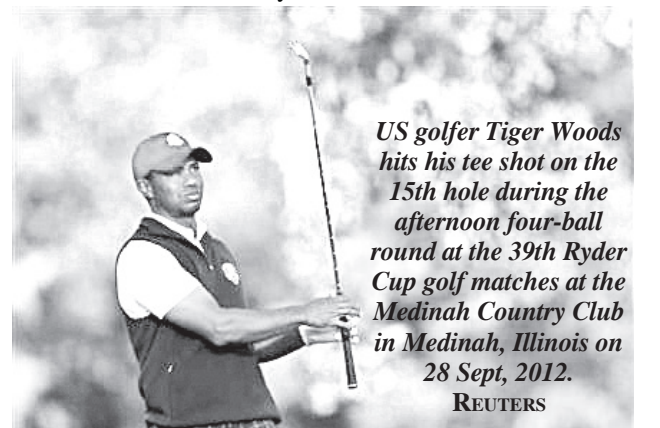
Ryder Cup rookie Jason Dufner and former Masters champion Zach Johnson will be chasing their third win of the week when they pair up against world number one Rory McIlroy and Ian Poulter of England.

Poulter has been one of the few shining lights in the European team, winning both of his matches with Justin Rose, but McIlroy, who had played with his fellow Northern Irishman Graeme McDowell, has won just one of three.

Rose was paired with Italian Francesco Molinari against reigning Masters champion Bubba Watson and US Open winner Webb Simpson.

In the other match, Dustin Johnson and Matt Kuchar will take on Belgian rookie Nicolas Colsaerts and Scotland's Paul Lawrie.

Reuters



US golfer Tiger Woods hits his tee shot on the 15th hole during the afternoon four-ball round at the 39th Ryder Cup golf matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois on 28 Sept, 2012. REUTERS



GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**  
(1-10-12 09:30 am ~ 2-10-12 09:30 am) MST  
\* News  
\* Ecstasy of Life  
\* News Trend of Myanmar Car Market  
\* News  
\* Carnatic Music Nite  
\* News  
\* Nature's Hidden Treasure (Mushroom & Mushroom Specific Production)  
\* News  
\* One Stop Treatment Medical Ream  
\* Sweet Home & Living Expo-2012  
\* News  
\* The Eldest Woman on

Earth?  
\* News  
\* Myanmar Global Investment Forum: Progress, Potential and Promise  
\* News  
\* Shwe Than Lwin Home For Aged  
\* News  
\* Famous Pagodas of Sagaing  
\* Up & Coming Art Show 2012  
\* Myanmar Movie "Heartbroken Lady"

**MYANMAR TV**  
(1-10-2012, Monday)  
7:00 am  
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw  
7:50 am  
4. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am  
5. Health Programme  
8:10 am  
6. Dance Of National Races  
8:20 am  
7. Cute Little Dancers  
8:30 am  
8. Selected Songs For 19<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012)(Oldies & Mono Classial)(Basic Education Level) (Women)  
8:45 am  
10. Documentary  
4:00 pm  
1. Martial Song  
4:10 pm  
2. Musical Programme  
4:25 pm  
3. Dance Variety  
4:35 pm

4. International Day Of Older Persons  
4:45 pm  
5. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Math)  
5:00 pm  
6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit  
5:05 pm  
7. Music Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)  
5:15 pm  
8. Myanmar Language  
6:20 pm  
14. Sing & Enjoy  
7:00 pm  
15. TV Drama Series  
8:00 pm  
16. News  
20. Cartoon Series  
21. Teleplay

DISTRICT NEWS

Fingerlings set free into Duya Lake



HINTHADA, 30 Sept—With the aim of ensuring plenty of water resources and developing fish production, Duya Marine Product Trading Cooperative Ltd and local people released 590,800 fingerlings into Duya Lake in Duya Village of Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 22 September.—Myanma Alin

Villa late show snatches Barca win at Sevilla

Soccer



Barcelona's team celebrate a goal against Sevilla.—REUTERS

MALAGA, (Spain), 30 Sept—Substitute David Villa scored a superb last-gasp winner and Cesc Fabregas netted twice as leaders Barcelona came from two goals down to stun 10-man Sevilla 3-2 and extend their perfect La Liga record on Saturday.  
It was the second time Barca have recovered to win this season - they were behind at Osasuna before winning 2-1 - and Tito Vilanova's side look hungry to take back the title they lost to Real Madrid last term after three straight

triumphs.  
Saturday's success means Barca equalled their best start to the season of six straight victories, a feat they have achieved four times previously and most recently in 2009-10.  
They have 18 points, four ahead of Malaga, who thumped 10-man Real Betis 4-0, and will be at least eight ahead of Real when they host their arch rivals next weekend.  
After a poor start to the season, Jose Mourinho's side are in ninth place on seven points and host promoted

Deportivo Coruna on Sunday.  
"I don't think a draw would have been a fairer result as we had more chances during the game as a whole," Vilanova told a news conference after Barca's dramatic win in Seville.  
"It's always better to have a points advantage than not to have one but there is a long way to go," he added when asked about the early lead over Real.  
Barcelona were perilously close to slipping up for the first time this season when Sevilla went 2-0 up at their Sanchez Pizjuan stadium through Piotr Trochowski and Alvaro Negredo.  
With Carles Puyol and Gerard Pique injured, Vilanova deployed Alex Song at centre back alongside fellow converted midfielder Javier Mascherano and they were each at fault for the Sevilla goals.  
Mascherano failed to clear a 26th-minute effort by Gary Medel - who was dismissed 20 minutes from

time after clashing with Fabregas - and Trochowski picked up the loose ball and smashed an angled shot past Victor Valdes.  
Former Germany midfielder Trochowski had netted Sevilla's winner in this month's surprise 1-0 success at home to Real, and was given a rousing ovation when he went off injured shortly before halftime.  
Sevilla were two ahead within three minutes of the restart when Negredo left Song trailing and chipped the ball over the onrushing Valdes before Fabregas pulled a goal back for the visitors with a fierce left-foot drive in the 53rd minute.  
After sustained Barca pressure, the former Arsenal captain levelled at 2-2 in the 89th when he latched on to a Lionel Messi pass and lifted the ball into the net.  
The stage was set for Villa, only recently returned from a broken leg, and Spain's record scorer ran through deep into added time and sent a left-foot shot past Andres Palop.

Reuters

Bradley and Mickelson become Ryder Cup rock stars

Golf

MEDINAH, (Illinois), 30 Sept—The Ryder Cup has seen many great partnerships but never one quite like Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley, who have turned a May-September bromance into golf's dynamic duo.  
Bradley, a fiery rookie and Mickelson, the most experienced member of the American brigade making his ninth appearance at the biennial competition, have developed the type of chemistry rarely seen on a US  
Ryder Cup team.  
With three wins from three matches at stately Medinah Country Club, Mickelson and Bradley have become Ryder Cup rock stars whipping the massive galleries into a frenzy with every high-five and fist-pump.  
Europe has produced the Ryder Cup's most memorable and enduring partnerships with the pairing of Spanish giants Seve Ballesteros and Jose Maria Olazabal at the top of the list.—Reuters

US golfer Phil Mickelson (L) slaps hands with teammate Keegan Bradley after Bradley's approach shot to the 11th green during the morning foursomes round at the 39th Ryder Cup matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois, on 29 September, 2012. —REUTERS

US golfer Phil Mickelson (L) slaps hands with teammate Keegan Bradley after Bradley's approach shot to the 11th green during the morning foursomes round at the 39th Ryder Cup matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois, on 29 September, 2012. —REUTERS

Pilot killed in small plane crash in Turkish capital

ANKARA, 30 Sept—A small civilian plane on Saturday crashed in Turkey's capital of Ankara after hitting power lines, killing the pilot and wounding the co-pilot, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.  
The Cessna 170 plane crashed into the garden of a house in the Esenboga

suburb near Ankara's international airport with no report of casualties on the ground.  
The co-pilot, with serious injuries, was rushed to a nearby hospital.  
The plane was registered to an Istanbul-based aviation club.  
Xinhua

String of Iraq blasts kills at least 32

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept—Coordinated bomb attacks killed more than 32 people across Iraq on Sunday, the latest violence in an insurgency the government has failed to quell more than nine months after the last US troops withdrew.  
Violence in Iraq has eased since the carnage of 2006-2007, but Sunni Islamists still launch frequent attacks to undermine the Shi'ite-led government's

claim to provide security and prove they remain a potent threat.  
No group claimed responsibility for Sunday's string of attacks, but a local al Qaeda affiliate and other Sunni Islamist groups have carried out at least one major assault a month since the last American troops left in December.  
In Taji, 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, bombs in three parked cars went off

separately, killing 11 people and wounding 24, including several policemen. Taji has one of Iraq's largest military airbases but the bombing hit a civilian neighbourhood.  
Reuters footage of the scene of one of the explosions showed the remains of an exploded car surrounded by several completely and partially destroyed houses and cars.  
"A car bomb entered the area and no one ... noticed

this. Why did that happen? All the houses were destroyed," said Khaidar Abas, owner of one of the damaged homes.  
In Baghdad, three separate bombs killed eight people, including a police officer. In the city of Kut, 150 km (95 miles) southeast of Baghdad, a suicide bomber driving a car blew himself up, killing four policemen, police and local officials said.  
MNA/Reuters



# President U Thein Sein gives interview to BBC World News



NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, who was in New York of the United States of America, gave an interview to the BBC World News at the hall of the Mark Hotel in New York at 11.15 am local time yesterday. The President answered the questions raised by Mr Stephen Sackur of the BBC World News.—MNA

*President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein being interviewed by Mr Stephen Sackur of BBC World News at the hall of the Mark Hotel in New York.—MNA*

## Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham felicitates Chinese counterpart

## Vice-President U Nyan Tun felicitates Chinese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, Dr. Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, Vice-President of the People's Republic of China. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Nyan Tun, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, Vice-President of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

## Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife attend reception to mark 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary Founding Day of China

*Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon being welcomed by Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua at reception to mark 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Founding Day of China at Sedona Hotel. MNA*



YANGON, 30 Sept—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon attended reception to mark 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary Founding Day of China at Sedona Hotel here this evening.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua welcomed the Vice-President and wife on their arrival at the hotel at 6.50 pm.

The ceremony was also attended by the Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and wife, the Union Minister for Sports, the Union Minister for Construction, the Yangon Region Chief Minister and wife, the Commander of Yangon Command and wife, deputy ministers, Yangon region ministers, senior military officers, departmental heads and officials, ambassadors, charge d'affaires ai and military attaché of foreign missions in Yangon and invited guests.

The ambassador conducted the Vice-President and wife round the hall displaying documentary photos of visits of Myanmar and Chinese leaders, and Chinese culture, sports and development.

National anthems of the two countries were played.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife and the Chinese ambassador cut the cake and posed for a documentary photo.

The Chinese ambassador hosted a dinner to the Vice-President and wife and those present.—MNA

## Flood warning for Ayeyawady, Dokhtawady rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—According to the 12.30 M.S.T observations today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Sagaing is observed as 15 cm (about 0.5 foot) below its danger level.

water level of Dokhtawady River at Myitnge is observed as 24 cm (about 9 inches) below its danger level.

It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours commencing this noon. The

It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours commencing this noon, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

### GSAT-10 placed in intermediate orbit by ISRO

### WHO says only severely ill should be tested for new virus

### China's most advanced research ship delivered

### Petrova stuns Radwanska to win Tokyo

