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President receives hero's welcome on his return home



President U Thein Sein being warmly and wholeheartedly welcomed back by crowds of people from all walks of life at Yangon International Airport.

MNA

YANGON, 1 Oct— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left New York at 8.30pm local time and arrived back here at 9.15 am today after attending the 67th UN General Assembly held in New York of US on 27 September.

national Airport people from all levels of organizations cordially welcomed back the President who could bring honour to the State by delivering address at UN General Assembly.

At the airport lounge, the President was welcomed by girls of national races and

by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar of Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and CEC members, Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Chairman and executives of Myanmar Music Association and

actors by waving Myanmar national flags.

Crowds of people who are holding President's portraits and placards and

waving miniature national flags welcomed the President along the route to airport. The President also cordially greeted them from airport

lounge to airport road. Myanmar delegation led by President U Thein Sein was welcomed at the (See page 8)

Bayern's Robben to miss BATE Borisov match

BERLIN, 1 Oct— Winger Arjen Robben is recovering from a minor muscle problem and will miss Tuesday's Champions League match in Belarus against BATE Borisov, the Bundesliga club said.

Dutch international Robben did not play in Bayern's 2-0 league win over Werder Bremen on Saturday but his absence was not felt as the Bavarians cruised to their sixth win in six league games.

Bayern, who opened their Group F campaign with a 2-1 victory over Valencia, have won nine straight games in all competitions this season.

"We want to have a perfect start in the Champions League as well," captain Philipp Lahm told reporters at Munich airport as the team departed on Monday.

BATE stunned Lille 3-1 away in their first game.

Reuters



Power-tillers donated to locals of Rakhine State

SITTWAY, 1 Oct—A ceremony to donate 12 power-tillers to local national races of Laywady Peace Youth Team from Maungtaw and Yethedaung townships of Rakhine State through crew of up to date channel of the Sky Net Channel of Shwe Than Lwin Co was held at Alodawpyae Monastery in Sittway on 20 September.

Abbot of the monastery Bhaddanta Paññajota gave advice. Manager in-charge U Nay Win Naing of the Sky Net handed over documents related to the power-tillers to Rakhine State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Kyaw Thein and Laywady Peace Youth Team.

Kyemon

ERIA capacity workshop starts with focus on MCDV



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Expectations game in full swing for US presidential debate



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NATIONAL

Korean-designed new model villages under implementation



YANGON, 1 Oct—Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein observed rural development and poverty alleviation tasks being implemented by the Ministry of Cooperatives through styling a new Korea village with the help of KOICA, in the east village of Phaunggyi, Hlegu Township, here, on 28 September.

There, he was conducted by Korean Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr. Kim Hae-Yong, expert Mr. Song, Jung Geun, Deputy Principal of the Cooperatives Training School U Thaug Naing and U Kyi Win Naing, who

recently paid a visit to ROK as an observer, and heard the reports on implementation of the rural development and more generating income programme. The Union Minister inspected progress of repairing streets of the village and the construction site chosen for an assembly hall thereafter.

On 29 September, the Union Minister cordially greeted rural people and asked them socio-economic status, expressing that the Government was following the best ways how other countries were then practicing in implementing rural development and poverty alleviation pro-

grammes.

It was reported that before starting a new Korea village, a total of six villagers from each village were sent to ROK to study how to implement a new village, choosing those whose ability is potential for building model ones with unity. When selecting a village's head who can influence his authority on the village is under decision of the villagers.

In the evening, the Union Minister held a meeting with Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs' Association Dr Aung Win and members including factory owners, urging them to make more investments in garment business that can create job opportunities at some time when the economic sanctions had been lifted.

MNA

1st Upper Myanmar Job Opportunity Fair for job seekers

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—With the supervision of Labour Administration Department under the Ministry of Labour, Look East Organization Myanmar sponsored 1st Upper Myanmar Job Opportunity Fair on 30 September morning at the third floor of 78 shopping mall, with an address by Union

Minister for Labour U Maung Myint.

The Union Minister met with staff from Mandalay Region Labour Administration Department at the office. Then he proceeded to Worker's Hospital (Mandalay) where he provided cash assistance to the patients.

MNA



International Day of Older Persons -2012 celebrated

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—"Longevity: Shaping the Future" is the theme for International Day of Older Persons-2012.

It was celebrated at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement this

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Nay Pyi Taw Announcement No (39/ 2012) 1st Waning of Tawthalin, 1374 ME (1st October, 2012) Two Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives substituted

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute two Defence Service personnel Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following two Defence Service Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives stated hereunder in Notification No. 1/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 with personnel shown against them.

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| (1) Air2195 | (Substitution) | Air2584 |
| Major Htoo Aung | | Major Zaw Min Latt |
| (2) Air 2184 | (Substitution) | Air 2608 |
| Major Aung Myat Toe | | Major Than Htaik |

By order,
(Win Ko)
Member
Union Election Commission

ERIA capacity workshop starts with focus on MCDV



NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) explored "Globalization and Development Strategy in Myanmar towards ASEAN Economic Integration" with Myanmar Comprehensive Development Vision (MCDV) as the

base for discussion at Nay Pyi Taw Seminar and Workshop 2012 at Myanmar International Convention Centre here this morning.

Dr Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, lifted the curtain of the two-day

capacity building seminar with keynote speech.

"MCDV was drafted by Myanmar people themselves," Professor Hidetoshi Nishimura, ERIA Executive Director, said in his opening remarks.

MCDV, which started since 2011 and envisions development of Myanmar within the time frame of 20 years, could become "a bible" of Myanmar's economic development, said resource person Mr Toshihiro Kudo, Senior Researcher of Institute of Developing Economics (IDE) under Japan External Trade Organization.

He introduced "Two Polar Growth Strategy" with focus on two major cities with highest potentials of economic growth, saying the "forced" equitable growth would ruin rapidity of the development.

ASEAN economic integration is due to take place by 2015 with formation of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and Myanmar will chair ASEAN a year ahead of the integration.

The Union Minister said in his speech that diploma courses on ASEAN studies would be opened on 9 October to boost ASEAN integration. The three-month postgraduate course will be conducted by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Home Affairs in Hlaing Campus, according to a university teacher.—NLM

the requirements of the older persons.

The Union Minister presented cash assistance for the older persons in the regions and states through the director-general of the Department of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. The Union Minister and Deputy Ministers U Phone Swe and Daw Su Su Hlaing accepted the donations for all homes for the ages in every corner of the nation.

The Union SWRR Minister and Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint and deputy ministers presented medicines and cash assistance to those older persons.

UNFPA Resident Representative Mr Mohamed S Abdel-Ahad read out the message sent by the UN Secretary-General.

MNA

morning.

In Myanmar, Homes for the Aged had been established since 1915 in order to look after the older persons. Although building Homes for the Aged are not fulfilled the requirements of the older persons, door to door taking care system for older persons had started since 2004 in cooperation of NGOs and local social organizations in 154 townships of the regions and states.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin pointed out that the right thoughts are necessary to take care for those older persons among human beings.

The bill of national level work been plan for older persons has drawn to fulfill



WORLD

Venezuela's presidential candidates to

Venezuela conclude campaigns

CARACAS, 1 Oct—Venezuelan presidential candidates Hugo Chavez and his rival Henrique Capriles on Sunday entered the last stage of their campaigns with rallies held in two of the largest cities, gathering thousands.

On his second visit since last July, Chavez, the incumbent president, led a large caravan in Cabimas, a key oil producer in the northwestern Zulia state, which is governed by the opposition with over 2.3 million eligible voters in the state, accounting for 12 percent of the total 18.9 million. Capriles on Sunday closed his campaign in

Caracas, capital of Venezuela with 1.6 million voters, which takes up 8.4 percent of the total voters. The Venezuelan presidential campaigns will end on 4 Oct with national vote held three days after.

Both candidates scheduled on Thursday to officially conclude their campaigns. Chavez said he would close in Caracas while Capriles in the north Miranda state, where he once served as the governor, and northwest Lara state. As rallies went on, authorities from Venezuela's National Electoral Council (CNE) verified 200 voting machines with the collaboration of 600 voters.

"This verification is the most important one before the presidential elections. The Venezuelans who helped were very glad and we thank them



for their commitment," said CNE president Tibisay Lucena to official television Venezolana de Television.

The Integrated System of

Image provided by Venezuela's Presidency shows Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez (R) participating in a campaign rally in Cabimas, Zulia, Venezuela, on 30 Sept, 2012.—XINHUA

Authentication, an indivisible device which confirms each citizen by their fingerprints, will be implemented in the election.—Xinhua

Spat of attacks kills 34

in Iraq Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Oct—A wave of gunfire and bomb attacks, including 12 car bombs, struck the Iraqi cities and towns on Sunday, killing 34 people and wounding some 85 others.

In and near the Iraqi capital, eight car bomb explosions and gunfire attacks killed up to 25 people and wounded 59 others, according to the police reports.

One of the deadliest attacks occurred in Taji area, some 20 km north of Baghdad, when insurgents successively blew up four car bombs in separate locations in the area, killing a total of eight people and wounding 25 others.

Another deadly attack in Baghdad took place in Karrada District in central the capital when a car bomb went off near a police patrol, killing a police officer and a policeman, and wounding five people, including two policemen.

Three more car bombs, roadside bombs and gunfire attacks in the capital killed at least 15 people and wounded 29 others. In eastern Iraq, a suicide car bomber struck a police checkpoint in south of the city of Kut, some 160 km southeast of Baghdad, killing five policemen, including two officers, and wounding six policemen.

In Iraq's eastern Province of Diyala, a car bomb detonated at a marketplace in the town of Khan Bani Saad, some 30 km east of Baghdad, killing a civilian and wounding five others.

Separately, a roadside bomb went off near an army patrol in the city of Adheim, some 120 km north of Baghdad, killing one soldier and wounding four others.

Also in the Province, a car bomb explosion narrowly missed the convoy of Mohammed Jawad al-Timimi, chief of the Kiyala's traffic police directorate, who escaped the blast unharmed, but four passers-by were wounded instead.

In Iraq's northern province of Nineveh, a civilian was killed and six were injured when a car bomb exploded near an army checkpoint in eastern the provincial capital city of Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad.

In a separate incident, gunmen wounded Hamid Khalaf, a member of the town council in the town of al-Shora, some 50 south of Mosul, while driving his car in the town.

Meanwhile, a police explosives expert was killed in the morning while he was trying to defuse a booby-trapped car at the city of Sulaimn Pek, some 160 km north of Baghdad.

Xinhua



Residents inspect the site of a bomb attack in the town of Taji, about 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, on 30 Sept, 2012. A string of car bomb blasts targeting mainly police checkpoints killed at least 17 people across Iraq on Sunday, police and hospital sources said.

REUTERS

Three killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 1 Oct—At least three people were killed and two others injured in a US drone strike launched on Monday in Pakistan's northwest tribal area of North Waziristan, reported local media.

Local TV channel Dunya quoted unidentified government sources as saying that US drones fired four missiles at a vehicle suspected of carrying militants in the Mir Ali area of North Waziristan early on Monday morning.

Identities of the killed suspected militants are not known at this moment.

Monday's US drone strike is the 31st of its kind (counted on daily) in Pakistan since 2012. So far this year, at least 222 people have reportedly been killed in such strikes.

Xinhua

Japanese PM Noda revamps Cabinet, eight

Japan new faces in

TOKYO, 1 Oct—Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda unveiled the new Cabinet lineup here on Monday after accepting the ministers' resignation en masse earlier in the day.

Noda announced at a press conference the appointments of ex-Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara as national policy minister, and Koriki Jojima who was chief of Diet affairs in ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) as finance minister, among others, in a bid to bolster the waning public support for his year-old government.

The premier also tapped Makiko Tanaka, another former foreign minister who used to enjoy huge public popularity for her sharp

tongue, as education minister.

Hiroyuki Nagahama, deputy chief Cabinet secretary, and Shinji Tarutoko, former acting secretary general of the DPJ, become the environment minister and internal affairs minister.

Noda gave the posts of health, labour and welfare minister and postal privatization minister to ex-deputy transport minister Wakio Mitsui and Mikio Shimoji, secretary general of the DPJ's coalition partner the People's New Party, respectively.

Tadamasa Kodaira and Keishu Tanaka were appointed as the national security committee chairman and justice minister.

Among the ten Cabinet

appointees, eight are first-timers except Tanaka and Mitsui.

"The revamped lineup will strengthen the government amid a pile of problems home and abroad," Noda said.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura, Deputy Prime Minister Katsuya Okada, Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba, Defence Minister Satoshi Morimoto, Industry Minister Yukio Edano and Reconstruction Minister Tatsuo Hirano will stay in their current posts.

Transport Minister Yuichiro Hata and Farm Minister Akira Gunji who took the portfolio in a Cabinet revamp in June, will also retain their positions.

Xinhua

Nigerian president says winning war against corruption

ABUJA, 1 Oct—Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan said here on Sunday the fight against corruption intensified by his administration was yielding fruits.

The Nigerian leader made the remarks at the inter-denominational service to mark the country's 52nd anniversary of independence.

President Jonathan told his audience that corruption was one of the major challenges confronting the nation and hindering its development.

He urged the citizens to join the government in fighting corruption and to appreciate the government's efforts to curb the vice.

Xinhua

Expectations game in full swing for US presidential debate US



US President Barack Obama speaks at a campaign event at Desert Pines High School in Las Vegas, Nevada, on 30 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON/LAS VEGAS, 1 Oct—Three days before the first presidential debate of the 2012 campaign, allies of Barack Obama and Mitt Romney sought to influence expectations on Sunday, with the president describing his debating skills as "just OK."

The Democratic incumbent and the Republican former governor of Massachusetts face off in Denver, Colorado, on Wednesday for their first of three televised debates.

Advisers to both men have tried to lower expectations for their respective candidates, and Obama got into the action during a rally in Nevada. "Gov Romney... he's a good debater. I'm just OK," the president told a crowd of about 11,000

outside a local high school. "What I'm most concerned about is having a serious discussion about what we need to do to keep the country growing and restore security for hard-working Americans. That's what people are going to be listening for," he said. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie predicted fellow Republican Romney's performance would alter the course of the campaign. Polls show Obama with a slight edge nationally and in critical swing states that will decide the 6 November election. "This whole race is going to turn upside down come Thursday morning," Christie told CBS' "Face the Nation."

His comments strayed from the script of both campaigns, which have tried to play down their own candidate's chances and talk up their opponent's, thus making it easier to claim victory or explain a defeat after the face-off.

"I think what we need is a big and bold performance on Wednesday night, and that's what he's going to give us," Christie said of Romney on ABC's "This Week."

Romney comes into the debate still trying to recover from a leaked video where the former private equity executive described nearly half of Americans as dependent upon government and who view themselves as victims.

"We've had some missteps, but at the end of the day, the choice is really clear," Romney's vice presidential running mate Paul Ryan told "Fox News Sunday." Ryan tried to lower the stakes for Romney's debate performance. "I don't think any one event is going to make or break this campaign," he said. Ryan said Romney would give a major foreign policy speech in the days after the debate.—Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Nokia, Oracle to announce mapping deal **Tech**

HELSINKI, 1 Oct—Phone maker Nokia Oyj will announce on Monday a deal that will give Oracle Corp's customers access to its mapping services, Nokia said on Monday.

Finland's Nokia, which bought the world's largest digital mapping firm Navteq in 2008, has been looking for ways to boost the business and recently signed mapping deals with Groupon Inc and Amazon.com Inc.

Oracle is the world's third-biggest software firm but also sells hardware to corporate clients and in 2009 bought Sun Microsystems, the manufacturer of server computers and developer of Java and Solaris software.

"Nokia has been on a mission for the last 18 months to sign mapping and location deals with large internet players. The deal with Oracle extends this and broadens the large enterprise market for Nokia's location services," said analyst Martin Garner from British consultancy CCS Insight.

In stark contrast with Nokia's troubled phone business, sales at Nokia's location business grew last quarter, although it still generates only 4 percent of group revenue.

Details of the deal may be unveiled later on Monday in San Francisco at the OracleWorld conference, the *Wall Street*



Nokia CEO Stephen Elop introduces new Nokia phones with Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system at an event in New York, on 5 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Journal said.

Last week Apple publicly apologized after customer complaints about errors in its maps which have been put on its latest phone operating system instead of Google Inc's mapping service.—Reuters

Tablets, Turtles make "most wanted" holiday toy list **Tech**

SAN FRANCISCO, 1 Oct—Tablet computers, turtles and a new take on a furry old-timer are the hot toys retailers and manufacturers hope will spark a rebound from a dismal 2011 holiday season, according to a closely watched "Most Wanted" list released on Friday.

Competition will be stiff over layaway: who's the earliest, with no fee or just a small fee.

"This year there is going to be more action early, and it's the battle of the layaway programmes," said Jim Silver, editor in chief of TimetoPlay.com, which released its "Most Wanted List" of toys on Friday.

Among this year's hot toys is LeapFrog Enterprises Inc's \$99.99 LeapPad 2 Explorer tablet, an update on last year's massive holiday hit.

The tablet made Time to Play's Holiday 2012 Most Wanted List, which is a hot read for toy industry executives. It was also featured on The Toy Insider, a holiday gift guide from a publisher that serves the toy and licensing industries, as well as gift lists from Walmart, Toys R Us and Sears Holdings Corp's Kmart.

Time to Play's list includes returning classics like Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles figures; a princess wedding castle playset for Hasbro Inc's My Little Pony; Lego Friends; and an update of Hasbro's furry 1990s toy, Furby.

Newer characters like Just Play's Doc McStuffins could be a hit. The doll based on the Disney Junior show has landed on lists from Time to Play, Toys R Us and Toy Insider.

Trotting out the same old toys year after year won't work, industry insiders say.

"Parents want to feel like they're making their kids happy, so a lot of it is making sure they have those products that have value and innovation," Hasbro's head of U.S. marketing, Billy Lagor, told Reuters at the Time to Play 2012 Holiday Showcase in New York.

Updated Furby dolls, for example, now can interact with one another.

Reuters



A Google employee poses with Nexus 7 tablets at a promotional event in Seoul on 27 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Mt Qomolangma's biodiversity better than expected

LHASA, 1 Oct—Research has found that biodiversity in Mt Qomolangma, the world's highest peak, is being better preserved than expected. The research on wildlife resources in a national nature reserve in Mt Qomolangma, which began in 2009, is the most comprehensive programme in the region in two decades.

"It was aimed at finding out more about its wildlife resources, a major step toward better preservation," said Cao Tiantang, chief of Mt Qomolangma nature reserve's ecology research and protection center. Two previous biodiversity research programmes were carried out in Mt Qomolangma, in 1975 and

the other from 1991 to 1993.

"Their findings were limited, given a lack of equipment and little access to traffic," said Lhapa, a researcher at the nature reserve. Lhapa and his colleagues often found they could only use old data from the 1970s in their research. "Obviously, they do not represent the current biodiversity status and are in dire need of updating."

The ongoing research, a 1.8-million yuan (283,911 US dollars) project sponsored by State Forestry Administration and local forestry authorities, covered 32,000 square kilometers in the Mt Qomolangma nature reserve.

"Our biggest finding was

the discovery of nearly 120 new vertebrates," said Hu Huijian, a leader of the research team.

The team found more than 460 vertebrates in the nature reserve, compared with 360 that were previously known, he said.

Among other major findings were new snake and bird species. Hu said most discoveries were found in four ravines on the Himalayas' south face. "Warm currents from the Indian Ocean nurtured many wildlife species in the ravines."

Hu and his team are expecting more findings here. "We'll carry out more field trips, one ravine at a time." Despite the tough

Science

plateau climate, the researchers found, the region's food chain was well-preserved and biodiversity was better than most people could imagine.

"There are huge varieties of artiodactylous animals and cats, as well as 30 to 40 raptor species," said Hu.

"We see many Tibetan wild donkeys, hares and marmots in our field trips," said Pan Hujun, 26, who has spent two years studying amphibians and reptiles in the Mt. Qomolangma nature reserve. "It's amazing how well wildlife species thrive here. This is indeed a holy place with so many mysteries," said Pan.

The Qomolangma nature reserve, created in 1988, was recognized in 1999 by the United Nations as one of the world's most successful examples of sustainable development. It sits at an average altitude of 4,200 metres and is home to five of the world's 14 tallest peaks measuring over 8,000 metres. Scientists say biodiversity research in Mt. Qomolangma is essential in their study of global climate change.—Xinhua

US high-tech companies ramping up exports: survey

SAN FRANCISCO, 1 Oct—Most US high-tech companies expect to export more cell phones, tablets and other electronics over the next two years to growing middle-class populations in developing nations, citing free trade pacts and rising labor costs abroad, a survey found.

The survey of 125 high-tech manufacturers included senior supply chain and

logistics executives in consumer electronics, semiconductor, communications equipment and electronic component/accessories industries.

High-tech product sales and shipments are expected to grow the most, by 22 percent, in India, the Middle East and Africa, over the next three to five years, the survey said.

Increases are expected

to range from 18 percent in Brazil and 19 percent in the rest of South America to 15 percent in Eastern Europe, 13 percent in Korea and 8 percent in China and in other Asian nations.

Lingering barriers to boosting exports include the difficulty of managing spread-out global inventory, unstable global suppliers and security concerns, the survey found.

"Additional progress in free trade agreements would be a big winner, not only for the high-tech space but for all US industry," Rankin said. The high-tech companies that were surveyed sell and ship 97 percent of their products in North America. Within three to five years, that percentage will decline to 90 percent as demand mounts in emerging markets for their products.—Reuters



HP unveils ElitePad 900 Windows 8 tablet with unique and versatile 'Smart Jacket' system.—REUTERS

Two ancient human skeletons found in central Morocco **Science**

RABAT, 1 Oct—Moroccan researchers have discovered two human skeletons which date back to between 6,000 years and 14,000 years ago in a cave in central Morocco, the National Centre for Archeology and Heritage said on Tuesday in a statement.

The bones were found separated by an archaeological layer of about 0.5 metre, the statement said, pointing out, however, that the precise age of the skeletons needs to be confirmed by radioactive dating.

The first skeleton, which dates back to between 6,000 years and 8,000 years ago, belongs to an adult man buried in a narrow trench in a sitting position with legs contracted sharply. The second skeleton is of an adult man who was buried on the first man's right side, and is estimated to date back to between 8,000 years and 14,000 years ago.

The statement added that the importance of this discovery is to refute the idea of a cultural vacuum between the Neolithic period and the Late Stone Age, between the cultures of human communities dependent on hunting and the first agro-pastoral groups that followed.—Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Novartis's smokers' cough treatment gets European nod **Health** **Injuries due to child abuse on the rise**



An employee smokes a cigarette beside the logo of Swiss drugmaker Novartis AG in front of a plant in Basel on 25 October, 2011. —REUTERS

ZURICH, 1 Oct—Swiss Commission had approved drugmaker Novartis said on Monday the European once-daily treatment for adult

patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, more commonly known as smoker's cough, in the European Union.

Trials showed that the treatment significantly improved lung function over the first four hours after morning dosing when compared to placebo, and that this benefit was sustained for 24 hours over a 52-week period, Novartis said.

The group said the treatment will be available to physicians and patients in some European Union markets by year end.

Deutsche Bank has estimated peak sales for Seebri Breezhaler at some \$500 million.—Reuters

NEW YORK, 1 Oct—More kids were hospitalized for serious injuries resulting from abuse in 2009 than in 1997, according to a new study, despite previous research suggesting fewer kids are maltreated now than in the past. Researchers found the increase in serious injuries was due to more babies under a year old being hospitalized. The number of abused, injured kids and teenagers held relatively steady.

The findings are based on a survey of records from 2,500 or more US hospitals conducted every three years.

“We’re looking at the most seriously injured kids,” said lead author Dr John Leventhal, a pediatrician from the Yale School of

Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut. “The kids who get hospitalized for physical abuse represent a very small proportion of all the children in the country who are physically abused,” he told Reuters Health - about two to four percent.

They found the number of children hospitalized for those reasons increased slightly between 1997 and 2009, from 6.1 to 6.4 out of every 100,000.

Those children were kept in the hospital for a week, on average. Their most

common injuries were fractures, open wounds and traumatic brain injuries.

Babies are known to be at the highest risk of physical abuse. Based on this sample, the number of infants under one year old with a serious abuse-related injury increased from 56.2 to 62.3 per 100,000 each year.

“Infants tend to be hospitalized at a much higher rate than older children, and I think it’s because the injuries they sustain are much more serious,” Leventhal said.

Reuters

Euro, oil fall on Spain, growth worries **Business**

TOKYO, 1 Oct—The euro, commodities and Asian shares fell on Monday, weighed down by uncertainty about Spain's bailout and concerns over a slowdown in demand that was underscored by sluggish business activity data in Japan and China. Trade was subdued, with several Asian markets closed for holidays, including

China, Hong Kong and South Korea, “Investors are focusing on demand indicators being weaker than expected,” said Natalie Rampono, a commodity strategist with ANZ in Melbourne.

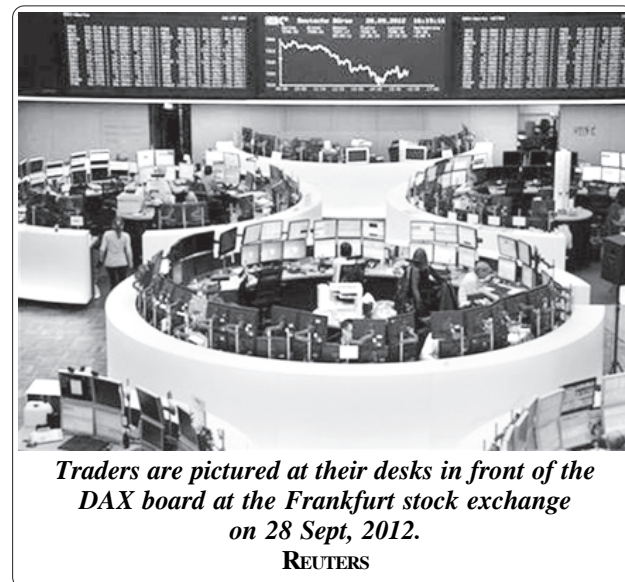
The MSCI index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan <MIAPJ0000PUS> fell 0.3 percent. The Australian market

(.AXJO) was caught in choppy trade, rising as much as 0.6 percent before ending flat. Taiwan stocks slid 0.6 percent (.TWII) after rising 5.7 percent in the third quarter.

Japan's Nikkei stock average (.N225) fell 0.8 percent to a three-week low as local profit warnings underlined growth fears. US

crude fell 0.7 percent to \$91.57 a barrel and Brent fell 0.7 percent to \$111.61.

The euro fell 0.4 percent to a three-week low of \$1.28035 while risk-sensitive currencies also fell, with the Australian dollar slipping 0.3 percent to \$1.0340. London copper fell 0.3 percent to \$8,184 a metric ton.—Reuters



Traders are pictured at their desks in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 28 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

Cancer trials show one year on Roche's Herceptin is best

LONDON, 1 Oct—Extending treatment with Roche's breast cancer drug Herceptin to two years from the one year current standard is not worth while, trial data showed on Monday, but shortening treatment to six months also looks unlikely to benefit patients.

The results of two keenly-watched studies on Herceptin, known generically as trastuzumab, banish a downside risk for Roche, but also limit its ability to squeeze more value out of

the lucrative drug before it loses its patent from 2014.

Analysts had said the Swiss firm, the world's biggest maker of cancer drugs, could lose up to \$1.5 billion in revenue from the blockbuster medicine in the medium term if six months treatment had been shown to be just as effective.

Roche conducted a study called HERA investigating the benefit of using Herceptin for two years rather than one, while an opposing French study called

PHARE looked whether patients get the same benefit from just six months.

Roche's head of global product development Hal Barron said the HERA results answered an important question “and support current medical practice”.

Martine Piccart, who chairs the Breast International Group which carried out the HERA trial, added in a statement:

“It's essential that our clinical trials help us understand just how long

patients need to receive a particular treatment.

“These results give us both the evidence and the reassurance that it's not necessary to give patients with early-stage HER2 positive breast cancer Herceptin for more than one year.”

The Swiss drugmaker is also due to present new data on Monday on its experimental “armed antibody” drug known as TDM-1 as a treatment for HER-2 positive breast cancer.—Reuters



A Penn State helmet sits on the turf before their NCAA football game against Ohio University in State College, Pennsylvania on 1 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

Seeing “Kawaii” images help improve working performance **Health**

TOKYO, 1 Oct—Looking at pictures of cute animals enhances performance in work requiring concentration, the finding of an experiment released Thursday showed. The experiment called “The Power of Kawaii” was conducted by a team led by a Hiroshima University professor, with the participation of about 130 college students. The word “kawaii” means cute in Japanese.

In the experiment, participants were asked to perform two sets of tasks — picking up small parts with tweezers to retrieve them from a hole without touching its perimeter and choosing designated numbers from a line of numbers.

They were divided into three groups and each was shown either

seven photos of kittens and puppies, or of adult cats and dogs, or of sushi and other food. The group seeing photos of kittens and puppies had their accuracy and speed improve 44 percent in the task of picking up small parts and 16 percent in the number finding assignment, according to the results.

In contrast, there was no before-and-after change in performance in the other groups, the team said.

“The feeling that something is adorable has a function to prompt a person to want to be closer to and know more about the object,” said Nittono, a professor of psychophysiology and engineering psychology. “That perhaps creates the effect of concentrating one's attention.”—Reuters

Chinese children eating too much aluminum **Health**

BEIJING, 1 Oct—More than 40 percent of 4-6 year-old Chinese children are exposed to excess aluminum from food additives, new research has indicated. About 43 percent of this age group eat 1.6 times the maximum daily consumption of aluminum suggested by the World Health Organization, according to a survey conducted by the China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment under the Ministry of Health.

Children absorbed the hazardous substance mainly by eating puffed-grain foods, according to the study results, released on Thursday. Exposure to high levels of aluminum may result in respiratory and neurological problems.

Additives containing aluminum are widely used in China's food industry. Flour and flour products including steamed bread, fried dough sticks, and noodles are major sources of the element, said Chen Junshi, a senior expert with the centre.

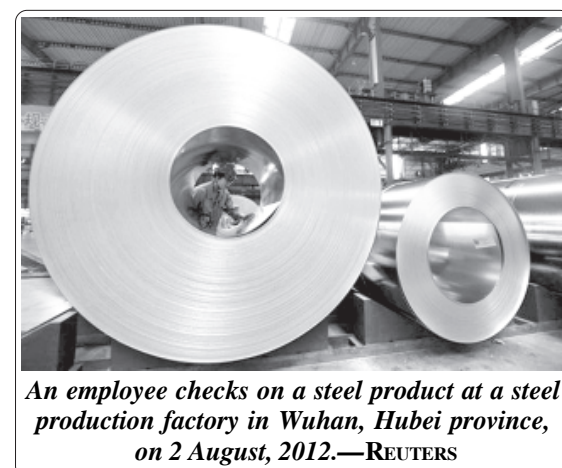
Such additives are allowed in food processing, but producers tend to use more than the required amount to boost taste, Chen added.

The survey also showed that people living in

northern China consume 4.6 times the amount of aluminum taken in by people in southern China, due to the former's dietary preference for flour products.

The country's health authorities are considering stricter regulations on the use of 13 kinds of food additives containing aluminum, according to Chen.

Reuters



An employee checks on a steel product at a steel production factory in Wuhan, Hubei province, on 2 August, 2012.—REUTERS

WORLD**Kenya navy shells Somali town after rebels****Kenya retreat**

MOGADISHU, 1 Oct—Kenyan warships shelled the southern Somali port of Kismayu overnight after al Qaeda-linked rebels said they had abandoned the city, residents said on Sunday.

Stunned by an assault by sea, air and ground forces late on Friday night, al Shabaab rebels fled the city that had been their key source of revenue, retreating to surrounding forests and towns.

However, there were conflicting reports on Sunday evening about how much of Kismayu African Union forces (AMISOM) now

controlled.

The Kenya Defence Force (KDF), part of AMISOM, said it had seized the sea port, the police headquarters and the radio station, but a source in the Somalia National Army told *Reuters* AMISOM was close to taking control of those installations but had not yet done so. The shells being fired by Kenyan warships may have been targeting remaining pockets of resistance or military installations in the city that was the rebels' last stronghold.

"The ships were firing deafening shells at the

outskirts last night but several shells landed on houses," said Samira Ismail, a local mother of four. Al Shabaab said two children had been killed and other people wounded in the shelling, a statement rejected as propaganda by Col Cyrus Oguna, a Kenyan military spokesman.

Kenyan and Somali troops sent to retake Kismayu from the rebels were on the town's outskirts, Oguna said earlier on Sunday, and were proceeding carefully in case al Shabaab's claim to have abandoned the city was a ploy to lure them into a trap.

Reuters

Soldiers of the Kenyan contingent serving with the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) are pictured at their sector headquarters in Dhobley, southern Somalia, in this on 30 Sept, 2012 handout photo released by the African Union-United Nations Information Support.—REUTERS

**Major quake hits Colombia, no reports of death or damage****Disaster**

BOGOTA, 1 Oct—A large earthquake shook Colombia on Sunday, rattling residents in the southwest of the Andean nation, but there were no reports of deaths or major damage, authorities said. The 7.1-magnitude quake had its epicentre in the southwestern province of Cauca with a depth of about 103 miles, Colombian officials said.

"So far there are no reports that there has been damage to any part of the country, only reports that it was felt," Jaime Raigosa, coordinator of the National Seismological Network, said. "Fortunately, the quake was deep."

The US Geological Survey had reported a 7.4-magnitude earthquake but then downgraded it to 7.1. The quake was felt in neighbouring Ecuador but authorities reported no damage there. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said that no tsunami was expected.—*Reuters*

Turkish democracy is example for Muslim world: Erdogan**Turkey**

ANKARA, 1 Oct—Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan trumpeted Turkey's credentials as a rising democratic power on Sunday, saying his Islamist-rooted ruling party had become an example to the Muslim world after a decade in charge. Addressing thousands of party members and regional leaders at a congress of his Justice and Development (AK) Party, Erdogan said the era of military coups in the nation of 75 million people was over. He vowed to forge a more diverse constitution and turn a new page in relations with Turkey's 15 million Kurds, in a speech lasting almost two and half hours and meant to chart the AK Party's agenda for the next decade. "We called ourselves conservative democrats. We focused our change on basic rights and freedom," Erdogan told thousands of cheering party members at the congress in a sports stadium in the capital Ankara.

"This stance has gone beyond our country's borders and has become an example for all Muslim countries."

Leaders including Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi, Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambayev and Masoud Barzani, president of Iraq's autonomous Kurdistan region, were among the guests.

World War Two veteran Wilbert Gauding, 92, of Ravenna, Ohio, stands on the USS Yorktown after touring the USS Laffey with his family at Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina on 11 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

**Preserving old ships is dear to US veterans, costly for museums**

MOUNT PLEASANT, 1 Oct—The Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum, a popular tourist spot in South Carolina's Charleston Harbor, is facing the same challenge as other US Navy ship museums: keeping retired, once-storied warships afloat.

Its World War Two destroyer, the *USS Laffey*, just had a nearly \$13 million restoration. The almost 70-year-old World War Two aircraft carrier, the *USS Yorktown*, will need eventual repairs at a cost of tens of millions of dollars.

The *USS Clamagore*, a

1945 submarine at a dock nearby, could roll over in the next hurricane without extensive work to shore up its hull. While a veterans' group tries to raise enough money to save the sub, museum officials are making plans to have it towed to sea and turned into an artificial reef.

"Every ship cannot be kept as a floating museum," said Robert "Mac" Burdette, executive director at Patriots Point, which as the country's oldest aircraft carrier museum draws 230,000 visitors a year. "I wish they could. The money's not there in the world

anymore." The nation's 48 Navy ship museums are trying to balance preserving history and sentiment with the expense of maintaining huge, aging warships, a delicate act complicated by the fact that most do not get funding from the US Navy or other government entities.

The ships need maintenance that was once done daily by hundreds of sailors, and a few need significant restoration to stay afloat. With the country strapped by budget woes, those ships may have to be sunk if money cannot be found.—*Reuters*

Peru to host 3rd South American-Arab Summit to promote South-South cooperation**Peru**

LIMA, 1 Oct—Heads of state and government from Latin America and the Arab world will meet in the Peruvian capital of Lima for the third Summit of South American and Arab Countries (ASPA) scheduled for Monday and Tuesday.

The two-day event mainly focuses on promoting business between the two regions, with a parallel CEO Summit attended by both government and business leaders.

Thirteen heads of state and government among ASPA's 34 member countries will attend this year's summit, including Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Qatar, Brazil, Colombia, Chile and host Peru. At the summit, the ASPA countries are expected to reach agreements on improving political relations, increasing commercial ties and achieving larger investments between the South-South bloc and the rest of the world.

The "Declaration of Lima," which calls for finding a peaceful solution to international conflicts, promoting both regions as nuclear-weapon-free zones and furthering

economic ties, will be given a final touch by foreign ministers during the ASPA Council of Foreign Ministers' Meeting on Monday. It is expected that ASPA heads of state and government will sign the declaration as the ASPA summit's final declaration at the close of the summit.

Political issues will also be included on the summit agenda, especially the ongoing internal conflict in Syria, its effects on its Middle East neighbours, and the wave of violent protests sparked by an anti-Islamic film made in the United States. Participants may also discuss the need of reforming the United Nations system, especially the overriding power held by its Security Council.

Host of the CEO summit Carlos Chiappori Samengo said presidents and top managers from some 140 companies in the fields of energy and mining, agriculture, technology and banking, among others, have confirmed to attend the business meeting.—*Xinhua*

Six killed in plane crash in western Austria**Austria**

VIENNA, 1 Oct—A twin-engine Cessna aircraft crashed in Tirol in western Austria on Sunday, killing six of eight passengers on board, the *Austrian Press Agency* reported.

The plane departed from Innsbruck Airport at 6:50 am local time (0450 GMT) and was en route to Valencia in Spain when radio and radar contact with the plane was abruptly lost shortly after take-off. The plane had not made a distress call, though at 7:12 am the Innsbruck Airport reported to authorities that the plane had lost control. Shortly thereafter a recreational hunter near the scene of the accident heard engine noise followed by a crash and went to investigate.

The plane burst into flames upon crashing, but one survivor managed to escape from the wreckage where he was met by the hunter, while the other survivor found with severe burns in a forested area. Emergency services crew arrived at the scene at 7:42 am where they discovered the six dead passengers in the wreckage. Despite poor visibility which forced helicopter aid to be cancelled, a 100-metre long swath that the aircraft had made through the forest was visible. The bodies of the deceased were transported to Innsbruck for an autopsy, while an aircraft accident board investigation planned to determine the cause of the accident.—*Xinhua*



Turkey's Prime Minister and leader of ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) Tayyip Erdogan (R) and his guest, Egypt's President Mohamed Mursi greet the audience during the AKP congress in Ankara on 30 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Under Erdogan's autocratic grip, the AK Party has won three consecutive landslide election victories since 2002, ending a history of fragile coalition governments punctuated by military coups and marking Turkey's longest period of single-party government for more than half a century.

Per capita income has nearly tripled in that time and Turkey has re-established itself as a regional power, with its allies seeing its mix of democratic stability and Islamic culture as a potential role model in a volatile region.—*Reuters*

WORLD

Palestinian authority aims to securitize \$200 million of debt Somalia

GAZA, 1 Oct— Palestinian authorities are aiming to securitize an initial \$200 million of some \$1.3 billion worth of government debt by the first quarter of 2013 to help reduce state borrowing from local banks, a top banker said on Sunday.

“The Ministry of Finance is much more ready for securitizing the old debt rather than creating new debt, because we are not even rated,” Palestinian Monetary Authority Governor Jihad al-Wazir said ahead of a Monday meeting of Arab central bankers in Kuwait.

“This will be only to the primary market, only to the banks, not to the public and not to overseas public,” he told reporters.

The Palestinian Monetary Authority (PMA), which oversees operations in both the West Bank—where the Palestinian Authority is based—and the Gaza Strip controlled by the Islamist group Hamas, will manage the securitization on behalf of the Finance Ministry.

“What is important about this is that it will transfer some of the existing debt that is direct borrowing from the government

into securities which are tradable between the banks,” Wazir said.

“It will add to stability, it will generate an interbank market and additionally as an incentive it will be used as daily collateral in our payment system.”

The securitization would likely see the PMA convert a chunk of outstanding Palestinian debt into bonds or other tradeable securities that would then be sold to local banks, in order to cut its direct borrowing requirements.

The Palestinians, a stateless people, do not have their own currency and the Israeli shekel is used for most day-to-day cash transactions.

The PMA, which has reserves of \$1 billion, regulates banks operating in the Palestinian territories, occupied by Israel in a 1967 war.

The government budget deficit was likely to be around \$1.3 billion this year, up from a \$950 million gap projected in the budget, Wazir also said, adding \$1.36 billion was a red line for state borrowing from banks.—Reuters



Photo taken on 30 Sept, 2012 shows stewardesses of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) carrier Etihad Airways during the opening ceremony of World Route Development Forum in Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The three-day World Route Development Forum, which brings together around 350 air transport leaders and 3,000 delegates from 80 countries, focus on sustainability and consolidation in the industry.—XINHUA



Vehicles line up to pass a tollgate in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, on 30 Sept, 2012. More than 660 million people are expected to travel during the week-long Mid-autumn festival and National Day holiday starting 30 Sept, an increase of 8.8 percent from the same period last year, according to the Ministry of Transport. XINHUA

Guantanamo's last Western detainee returned to Canada

WINNIPEG, 1 Oct—The youngest prisoner and last Westerner held in the Guantanamo military base, Omar Khadr, was sent to finish his sentence in his native Canada on Saturday, the Canadian government said.

Canadian Public Safety Minister Vic Toews said that Khadr, who was a 15-year-old fighting in Afghanistan when captured in 2002, had been flown from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to a military base in Trenton, Ontario and transferred to the province's Millhaven maximum-security prison. Khadr's case has been controversial both in Canada and abroad given his age when he was captured, the nature of his

detention and hearing, and the reluctance of Canadian officials to accept his return.

“I am satisfied the Correctional Service of Canada can administer Omar Khadr's sentence in a manner which recognizes the serious nature of the crimes that he has committed and ensure the safety of Canadians is protected during incarceration,” Toews said in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

A US war crimes tribunal in 2010 sentenced Khadr, now 26, to 40 years in prison, although he was expected to serve just a few more years under a deal that included his admission he was an al-Qaeda conspirator who

murdered a US soldier.

Khadr pleaded guilty in 2010 to charges that included murdering American Army medic Christopher Speer with a grenade in a 2002 firefight, conspiring with al-Qaeda to commit terrorist acts, making roadside bombs to target US troops in Afghanistan, spying on American military convoys and providing material support for terrorism.

Khadr was the first person since World War Two to be prosecuted in a war crimes tribunal for acts committed as a juvenile. He was the youngest prisoner still at Guantanamo, but younger boys were previously held there.—Reuters

Egypt's Copts to return to Sinai homes, says government Egypt

CAIRO, 1 Oct—Egypt's presidency and prime minister said on Saturday security forces in North Sinai were working to return Coptic Christians living near Egypt's border with Israel to their homes after they fled in fear of attack from Islamist militants.

Nine Christian families living in Rafah near Egypt's border with left their homes on Friday after militants made death threats and gunmen attacked a Coptic-owned shop.

Analysts say Islamists with possible al-Qaeda links have gained a foothold in Sinai and the departure of the families could fuel concerns about religious tolerance and

the rise of militancy after the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak.

“The Coptic families quit their homes pre-emptively but the governor of North Sinai has given orders to return them to their homes and this is being carried out now,” said Yasser Ali, presidential spokesman.

Two armed men riding a motorcycle opened fire on a Coptic-owned shop in Rafah on Wednesday but no one was injured.

Prime Minister Hisham Qandil said militants had not tried to force the Coptic families from the bordertown and they had left of their own accord. However, death

threats against the Copts had been printed on flyers circulating in the desert area.

“We must uproot fear and provide all security measures to every citizen,” Qandil said.

Israel has voiced concern about security in Sinai, where at least four cross-border attacks have taken place since Mubarak was toppled in February 2011.

Egypt's new president, Mohamed Mursi, has vowed to restore order. But efforts to impose central authority are complicated by the indigenous Bedouin population's ingrained hostility to the government in Cairo. Reuters



Technicians work on Thai Airways International (THAI)'s first Airbus A380 at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok, Thailand, on 29 Sept, 2012. THAI will inaugurate commercial service with the A380 in early October on the Bangkok-Hong Kong and Bangkok-Singapore routes.—XINHUA

7.1-magnitude quake hits Colombia

BOGOTA, 1 Oct— An earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale jolted Colombia at 11:31:31 local time (16:31:31 GMT) on Sunday, the US Geological Survey (USGS) said. The epicentre, at a depth of 162.1 km, was determined to be at 1.972 degrees north latitude and 76.329 degrees west longitude in a rural region of La Vega city, Colombian Southwest Province of Cauca. It was 9 km west-northwest of Isnos town.

Carlos Ivan Marquez, an expert from Colombia's National Risk System, said so far there are no reports of victims or material damage, but that emergency units began inspection operations in the zones where the earthquake hit the hardest.

Marquez said the earthquake was felt in 12 provinces in central, south and southeast Colombia, where it caused panic among inhabitants of high buildings. Also, the earthquake was felt in towns of northern Ecuador. “I inform that authorities are alert before any situation. So far, no serious event has been reported,” said Marquez. The USGS had reported the earthquake at a magnitude of 7.4, but revised it to 7.1 later.—Xinhua

Al-Qaeda suicide bombing injures 13 in Yemen's south Yemen

ADEN, 1 Oct— At least 13 pro-government tribesmen were injured when suspected al-Qaeda suicide bomber blew himself up nearby a hospital in the troubled southern Province of Abyan on Saturday, a Yemeni security official told Xinhua.

The suicide bomber targeted a group of pro-government militia at the entrance to a public hospital in the town of Lawder in Abyan, killing himself and injuring at least 13 people at the scene, the local security

official said, requesting anonymity.

The leader of the pro-government militiamen, Mohammed Aidarous, who backed an all-out army offensive in Abyan Province against al-Qaeda in mid-June, was likely the targeted person in the bombing, but he survived the attack safely and unharmed, the security official said.

A witness near the scene told Xinhua anonymously saying that “a man wearing an explosives-

packed vest blew himself up among a gathering of pro-government tribal fighters leaving scores of people injured.”

Although the al-Qaeda militants are usually held responsible for such armed attacks and bombings, no group has yet claimed responsibility for the bomb blast.

The Yemen-based al-Qaeda offshoot had exploited Yemen's yearlong security vacuum during protests against the long-time ruler

Saleh and controlled several southern cities for more than a year before they were driven out by a US-backed offensive.

On 20 June, Yemen's military officials announced seizing al-Qaeda's last bastion in the country's troubled south following the army offensive.

However, local military and anti-terrorism experts said that the Yemeni al-Qaeda branch is still a major threat to the impoverished Arab country. Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 2 October, 2012

“From war to peace”

It was in the early period of post-World War II that Myanmar regained independence and was on a mission to rise back from the ravages of war. The parliamentary period of Myanmar during the time saw the adoption and implementation of the two-year Sorrento Villa plan from 1948 to 1950, and the eight-year Pyidawtha Plan from 1952 and 1960.

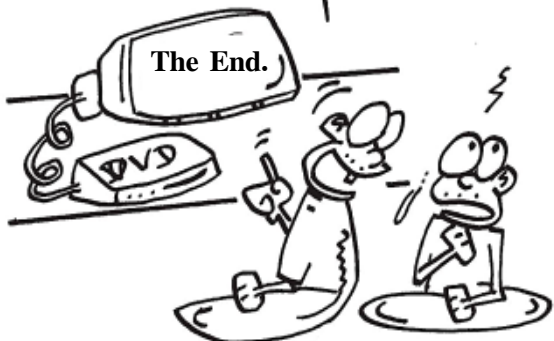
Both plans were for national rehabilitation and nation-building as WWII destroyed many lives and a large volume of property when it spilled into the country between 1942 and 1945. But the newly independent nation was not fortunate enough to fully recover from the ravages of WWII. Both plans could not fully realize their goals, mainly because of the instability caused by ideological or racial differences.

Unfortunately, these differences were not solved through talks and compromises, instead with guns. So, there broke out the armed civil strife that was burning in the country for over 60 years till now. The main outcome of civil war is that it drained away much of the country's resources. Myanmar got bogged down in a quagmire of multi-colour insurgency, while many other newly independent countries had well started their development drive.

The governments all along the post-independence history of Myanmar were busy trying to end the internal armed conflict through their own means. The government in office focuses on lasting peace, and in accordance with its adopted motto “From War to Peace”, it is addressing the longstanding hardships of the ethnic nationalities. Up to now, it has signed ceasefire agreements with 10 armed groups. At the initial stage, both the Government Peace Work Committee and Kachin armed group (KIA) are on their trust building mission through informal talks.

The government fully believes that genuine democracy cannot flourish without the cessation of all armed conflicts. In fact, any loss of life and property from either side is a loss of the country. So, let's all realize the motto “From War to Peace”.

I don't remember the story, but girls with short pants from beginning to the end.



Thee Thee

NATIONAL



President U Thein Sein being welcomed back by national races girls at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

President receives hero's...

(from page 1)

Airport by Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Commander

of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hsan Oo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua and military attaché.

The delegation members—Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thein Htay and U Khin Yi, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint and departmental heads—also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

President U Thein Sein being welcomed back by people from airport lounge to airport road.

MNA



Magway Region Hluttaw continues its third day special session

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—The special session 2/2012 of the First Magway Region Hluttaw continued for the third day at the Region Hluttaw Hall at 10 am today, attended by Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Ye Myint, the Deputy Speaker, Region Ministers and Hluttaw representatives.

At the session, they decided to send Magway Region Hluttaw's suggestion on draft constitution of Myanmar Hluttaw Affairs Organization.

MNA

District News

Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team leaves for Brunei

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—A Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team led by Maj-Gen Ngwe Thein of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief left here by air on 27 September morning to take part in the 22nd ASEAN Armies Shooting Championship to be held in Brunei.

They were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Lt-Gen Myint Soe of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, senior military officers of the office of Commander-in-Chief, and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye.—MNA

OPINION

The State and Region Sanghanayaka Committees in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ba Sein (*Religious Affairs*)

According to the resolution of the First Successful Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of 1980, the different levels of the Sangha Organizations throughout the country could be formed and the very first unity of the Sangha of All Orders could be reconstructed within one-hundred year in the history of Buddhism of Myanmar. The different levels of the Sangha Organizations are as follows:-

1. State Ovadaçariya (Patron) Committee of Sangha
2. State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders
3. State Sanghamahanakaya Committee
4. State/Region Sanghanayaka Committees
5. Township Sanghanayaka Committees
6. Ward/Village-tract Sanghanayaka Committees

These different levels of the Sangha organization represent over five-hundred thousand members of the Sangha in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar who are striving to carry out the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana. Out of the six different levels of the Sangha Organizations, the State and Regional Sanghanayaka Committees have been formed throughout the seven States and the seven Regions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar since 1980. Each committee consists of nine members of the Sangha including Chairman and Secretary elected by the majority of the members of the Sangha who are residing in limited place of respective States or Regions. The general election of the State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees shall be held in accordance with principles of the Sangha Organizations after five year's term.

There are altogether 49 State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees which have been formed throughout the country since 1980. They are carrying out the noble tasks of the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana under the guidance of the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The annual plenary meeting of the State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees shall be held in accordance with the principles of the Sangha Organizations.

Any member of the Sangha in order to be elected as a member of State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees shall have possessed the following qualities:-

1. Shall be of (20) vasa of monkhood.
2. Shall be well-versed and learned in Pariyatti, Scriptures and Tipitaka Canons.
3. Shall be worthy of and respected by members of the

Sangha and devotees.

4. Shall be desirous of carrying out the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana.
5. Shall have a superior's qualities such as being vigilant, tolerant and forgiving.
6. Shall be a member of Sangha who resides in the State or Region where the election shall be held.
7. Shall be a member of Sangha who actually is able and competent to take responsibilities lying upon him.
8. Shall be willing to construct the unity of members of Sangha and Sangha sects in the States/Regions.
9. Shall be free from the dispensation of justice (bribery).
10. Shall be a member of Sangha who is not expelled from as member of the State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees because of any reason in connection with loosing qualities.
11. Shall be a member of Sangha who is not punished under any penal law.

The members of the Sangha of having possessed the above-mentioned qualities are only eligible to be elected as member of the State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees.

Functions and duties

The State/Regional Sanghanayaka Committees are responsible to take the following functions and duties which lead to the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana. They are as follows:-

1. They shall have to carry out their functions in accordance with the principles of different levels of Sangha Organizations and the procedures of different levels of Sangha Organizations, the procedures of the settlement of Vinayadhammakamma Adhikara Disputes Act and other decisions and Instructions which were approved and adopted by the plenary meeting of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders.
2. They shall have to carry out their functions mainly leading to the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana and the unity of the members of the Sangha.
3. They shall have to make monks and novices (Samaneras) in respective States and Regions to obey and follow the instructions of the State Sanghamahanayaka committee.
4. They shall have to prepare the name-list of annual records and data of members of the Sangha residing in respective States and Regions and said it to the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee.

5. They shall have to submit their work-done reports to the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee from time to time.
 6. They may have to give the instructions to the township and ward/village-tract Sanghanayaka Committees as it is necessary.
 7. In accordance with the instructions of the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee, they shall have to decide and settle the disputes relating to Pariyatti and Patipatti affairs occurring in their respective States and Regions.
 8. They shall have to supervise the election of the township Ovadaçariya (patron) Committees of Sangha, the formation/limitation of the township Sanghanayaka Committees and the election of the State and Regional Working Committees of the Sangha.
 9. They shall have to be in consultation with the respective state and regional authorities concerned. When conducting the matters concerning with them in case of the Sasana Affairs.
 10. They shall have to submit the reports of the important matters out of the matters that have been done in a year to the annual meeting of the State and Regional Working Committee of the Sangha for approval.
 11. They shall have to inform the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee within five days about the falling of vacancy of any respective of Sanghasammutti, any member of Vinayadhuras, any member of State and Regional Sanghanayaka Committee, and State and Regional Ovadaçariya (Patron) Committees of the Sangha, and any member of the State Levels of Sanghanayaka Committees as soon as it is known.
- We all Buddhists throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are ready to support and provide the four kinds of requisites to the members of the Sangha of the State and Regional Sanghanayaka Committees who are carrying out the noble tasks of the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana and always pay respect to them. We wish that may all the members of the Sangha of the State and Regional Sanghanayaka Committees be healthy and wealthy to carry out the noble tasks of the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana more than ever before.

News in Brief

Yangon Region marks World Heart Day

The World Heart Day of Yangon Region was marked at University of Nursing in Lanmadaw Township on 29 September, with a speech by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Land management course provided

Farmland Law and Vacant, Virgin and Fallow Land Management Law course was opened at Thuwunna Hall in Thaton on 27 September. A total of 67 trainees from Kyaikto, Bilin and Thaton townships are attending the training course.

Refresher course for private school founders, supervisor opened

The private school founders and supervisors refresher course, jointly organized by Basic Education Department No 1 and No 3, was opened at Sabei Hall of Basic Education High School No 2 in Sangyoung Township on 30 September.

Production of urea molasses introduced

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye inspected production of urea molasses for milch cows of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in Mandalay Region on 28 September.

Union Home Affairs Minister attends 48th Anniversary of MPF



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko speaking 48th Anniversary of MPF.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko called on policemen to ensure the rules of law as role models for citizens.

In his address at the 48th founding anniversary of the Myanmar Police Force held at the headquarters of the Myanmar Police Force here today, he also said that the democracy system will be developed if the judiciary pillar

is upright and those law enforcement bodies follow the rules of law and act within the framework of law.

The Union minister, Deputy Ministers for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun honoured outstanding policemen and accepted cash donated by wellwishers to MPF.

MNA

WORLD

Qatar *Qatar's modern future rubs up against conservative traditions*

DOHA, 1 Oct— Qatar is spending massively to modernize its capital ahead of the 2022 World Cup, leading conservative Qataris to worry about how this will affect the Islamic nature of the Gulf state. Trucks can be seen speeding around Doha's business district, carrying building materials for the \$150 billion makeover that will give the city a new metro, airport, seaport and roads.

In the busy years leading up to the soccer tournament, Doha will see an influx of foreign companies, professionals and workers. With them will come a fresh flood of foreign cultures and lifestyles, and that is causing concern. "This is the real challenge for us: to maintain

our culture while building the country we will become," said 33-year-old Abdulrahman, who like other Qatari citizens preferred to be identified only by his first name.

Exploiting its immense natural gas resources has in just over 15 years transformed Qatar into one of the world's wealthiest nations, with a per capita annual income for its 250,000 citizens of well over \$90,000. Though led by a ruling family viewed as highly progressive by Gulf standards, the fact remains that most Qataris are very conservative. Most practice Wahhabism, the austere form of Islam also practiced in Saudi Arabia.

For them, concern that Western norms will start to infiltrate society is a

continuous and pressing reality, especially given the fact that they are an extreme minority in their own country, which is home to some 1.7 million people, many of them workers from south Asia. "We welcome the expats, and we want them here. But we will not permit any disrespect to our religion or culture," said Salma, a 25-year-old Qatari. "This is your home, for now. But it is our home forever, and we will not bend to your ways."

Qatar's Emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, 60, seized power from his father in a bloodless coup in 1995. He and his second wife Sheikha Mozah have gained a reputation as modernizers in recent years and raised the country's profile significantly

with the launch of the Al Jazeera television network and successful hosting the 2006 Asian Games, as well as their role in initiating the country's World Cup bid.

The street protests which swept four Arab heads of state from office since early last year and strengthened Islamists throughout the Middle East have not been seen in Qatar, thanks partly to its staggering wealth but also to its foreign policy: because Qatar aggressively aided the Libyan rebels, its government is seen as on the "right side" of the Arab Spring.

But the government cannot ignore the fact that much of the Qatari population may be resistant to the changes brought by rapid expansion.



Construction cranes and bulldozers operate at a real estate construction site being built by Qatar's Lucille properties in Doha on 25 September, 2012.—REUTERS

"It's a very delicate line they must balance. But the one thing the government cannot do is appear un-Islamic. It's game over if they do," said an analyst specializing in security issues, who like other analysts not named in this article asked not to be identified because of the political sensitivity of the

topic. So far, the policy has been working.

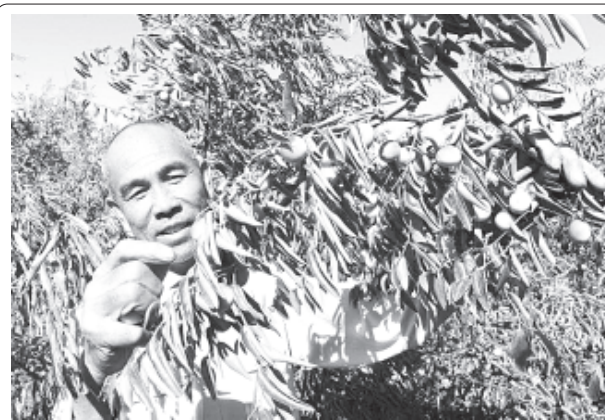
"The pace of economic expansion in Qatar over the last decade is almost without precedent. It is remarkable that the traditionally conservative society has handled these changes as well as it has," said one Doha-based economist.—Reuters

Nuclear weapons are no "guarantee of security"

UNITED NATIONS, 1 Oct— Kazakhstan said here on Saturday that nuclear weapons are unable to guarantee a country's security or independence, the world must unite in tackling the threat of proliferation of nuclear weapons and technology. The Kazakh acting foreign minister, Kairat Umarov, made the statement as he was taking the floor at the General Debate of the 67th session of the UN General Assembly, which opened here on Tuesday.

"The threat of proliferation of nuclear weapons and technology, along with the spectre of their acquisition and use by terrorist entities, has been one of the most daunting challenges to humanity," he said. "It is our strong view that the possession of weapons of mass destruction is not a guarantee of security or greater independence," he said. "Kazakhstan's own record goes to show that countries reap huge benefits from the renunciation of nuclear weapons." The Central

Asian nation closed down its nuclear weapons site Semipalatinsk, one of the largest test sites in the world and located in the country's northeast, in 1991. As a result of this, the acting foreign minister said, Kazakhstan has "won more friends and (has) become a more prosperous, stable and influential country. "This year, we will complete the project to enhance physical security of the former Semipalatinsk test site," he said. "We view this project, which is being implemented jointly with the United States and Russia, as our significant contribution to the global non-proliferation regime." Umarov said that Kazakhstan fully supports a proposal by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to adopt a nuclear weapons convention, noting the suggestion of his country's president that, as an important step in that direction, the United Nations should adopt a Universal Declaration of a Nuclear Weapon-Free World.—Xinhua



Kong Lingyou picks winter jujube fruits in a family orchard in Kongdian Village, Huanghua, north China's Hebei Province, on 28 Sept, 2012. In Huanghua, cultivation of winter jujube has been practiced for over three millennia. Today, sales of winter jujube fruits is a main source of income for local farmers.—XINHUA

Four Turks killed in clashes with Syrian troops near Idlib, battles drag on elsewhere

Turkey

DAMASCUS, 1 Oct— Four Turks were among other gunmen, who were killed on Saturday by the Syrian troops near Syria's northwestern Province of Idlib, the state-TV said, as clashes and violence continued elsewhere.

The confrontation took place at the town of Taftanas in the countryside of Idlib, the state-TV said. The Syrian government has repeatedly accused Turkey of facilitating the inroads of armed groups into Syria.

Meanwhile, the raging clashes between the government troops and the armed rebels in the northern Province of Aleppo have taken the lion's share of the headlines on Saturday. The state-run SANA news agency said the Syrian troops have carried out qualitative operations at Sheikh Lutfi district in Aleppo, killing and injuring scores of "terrorists" — a term used by the Syrian government to brand the rebels.

The troops also killed scores of armed men at the Districts of al-Sakhour, Khan al-Asal and near al-Hamza mosque in Aleppo. In Tal al-Zarazir area, 22 armed men were killed by the Syrian troops, according to SANA.

Meanwhile, a Syrian military source stressed on Saturday that the Syrian troops have wrested back control over two rebel-held areas in the fighting-stricken Aleppo Province. The unnamed source, who was quoted by SANA, said the Syrian troops are in full control over the al-Amiriah and Tal Zarazir districts in Aleppo. "Our forces will proceed in eliminating the terrorist mercenaries in all areas of Aleppo," the source said.

The battles in Aleppo, Syria's largest city and commercial hub, have been raging since Thursday when the armed rebels announced the commencement of the "decisive battle" in a bid to bring down Aleppo.—Xinhua

Africa must have due representation in Security Council: ministers

Africa

UNITED NATIONS, 1 Oct—The reform of the United Nations and its Security Council is one of the topics widely discussed during the week-long General Debate of the UN General Assembly, which entered its fifth day here on Saturday, and Algerian and Mauritanian foreign ministers have brought the topic to their specific goal — Africa should get a permanent seat on an expanded Security Council.

African ministers, when taking the floor at the United Nations General Assembly on Saturday, called for expanding the Security Council to include permanent representation for their continent and stressed the vital role of socio-economic in ensuring peace. "The working methods of the Security Council must be revised to ensure democratization, and its membership must be expanded to include new permanent and non-permanent members of the developing world, particularly Africa, the cradle of civilization," Algerian Foreign Minister Mourad Medelci said in his remarks to the annual high-level debate.

It has been widely agreed on among UN member states that the United Nations and its Security Council need to reform, but disagreements abound as to how to proceed with the reform. Ever since January 2009, the UN members have started to engage with each other via inter-governmental talks, now the key platform for UN reform, so as to learn the stance of other parties. However, there are still a series of disagreements concerning some core issues like the enlargement of the Security Council and the veto power.—Xinhua



Chen Meng (L), a Chinese young painter with autism, and Dou Yixin, an autism-caring person from Beijing, pose for photo at the exit of Mohe County, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 27 Aug, 2012. Chen Meng initiated an activity with Dou Yixin to raise funds for children in poverty with autism this August. They planned to travel through 11 municipalities and provinces from the northernmost Beiji Village in northeast China's Heilongjiang to south China's Hainan on foot or by scooter. They arrived in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on Wednesday night.

XINHUA

Israeli soldiers kill Palestinian near border: radio

Middle East

GAZA, 1 Oct—The Israeli army on Saturday killed a Palestinian near the fence of the border with northern Gaza Strip, Israeli Radio reported. The radio quoted an Israeli army statement as saying that the Israeli army forces shot dead a Palestinian who approached the border area.

Palestinian security or medical sources did not make any comment on the report, but said two Palestinian fishermen were shot on Friday by Israeli naval forces near a beach in northern Gaza Strip. One of the fishermen was in critical condition and died later Saturday, they said. The Israeli army denied the claim of shooting Palestinian fishermen, but said its naval forces opened fire at a fishing boat that violated the limited area of fishing.

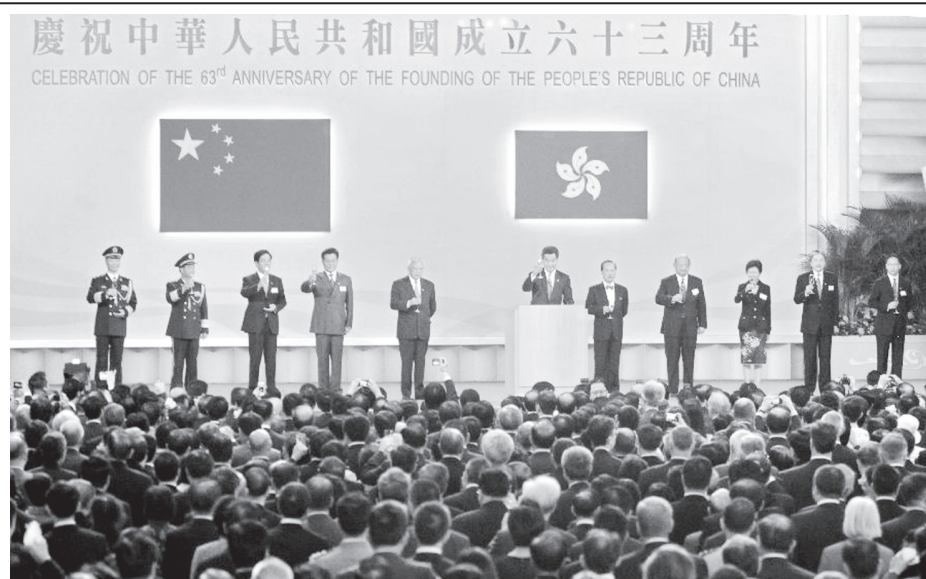
Israel is imposing a tight blockade on the sea, air and ground of the Gaza Strip, which is ruled by Hamas movement. It has built up a 300-metre no-go zone along the borderline between the coastal enclave and Israel.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

Two killed, dozens missing in Nepal landslip

KATHMANDU, 1 Oct—At least two people were killed and dozens have gone missing when five moving vehicles were hit by a landslide along the Mechi Highway on Sunday night, local media reported on Monday.

Two bodies have been found and search for the rest is on the way. According to the police, five among the missing are Indian nationals. However, their identities are yet to be ascertained.—Xinhua



Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Leung Chun-ying (C) and other guests propose a toast during a reception to mark the 63rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre in Kong Kong, south China, on 1 Oct, 2012. —XINHUA

US Ospreys deployed to Japan Okinawa amid local dissent

TOKYO, 1 Oct—US MV-22 Osprey aircraft were deployed Monday to an air base in Okinawa amid strong local opposition, on local media said. Despite lingering safety concerns, the first tilt-rotor transport aircraft arrived at the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station, located in a densely populated area in Ginowan, Okinawa Prefecture, from a base in southwestern Japan, the country's leading news agency *Kyodo News* reported.

Six Ospreys departed from the Marines' Iwakuni air base in Yamaguchi Prefecture on Monday morning, a day after police forcibly removed local residents and activists who staged a sit-in in front of the Futenma base gates.

"Going ahead with the move while the anxieties of the people of the prefecture remain unaddressed is beyond my comprehension," Okinawa Governor Hirokazu Nakaima said. "It is disappointing and extremely regrettable." The Marines plan to begin operating Ospreys on full scale at the Futenma base this month. The military aircraft which can take off and land like a helicopter and cruise like an airplane had its test flight for the first time in the nation at the Iwakuni base on 21 Sept after the central government confirmed its safety.—Xinhua

Six dead, 14 injured in bus fire near Beijing

TIANJIN, 1 Oct—Six people, including five German nationals and a Chinese driver, died and 14 others were injured after a tourist bus rear-ended a container truck and caught fire Monday near Beijing, police said. The bus, which had a li-

cense plate from Beijing, was carrying a group of German tourists and was driving on an expressway linking the capital with the neighboring port city of Tianjin when the accident happened at around 8:30 am, said police authorities in Tianjin.

Police said the tour group was organized by the Beijing-based China Youth Travel Service. The bus driver died at the scene. The identities of the other victims are still unknown. It is also unclear how many people were traveling in the bus. Witnesses said they saw a few people escape from the flames.

Photographs posted by witnesses on the web showed the whole vehicle was engulfed in flames and dark smoke. The injured passengers are being treated at the People's Hospital in Tianjin's Wuqing District. The German Embassy in Beijing has sent personnel to Wuqing. The wreckage of the bus has been removed from the road after the flames were extinguished. Police were cleaning up luggage. The cause of the accident is under investigation.—Xinhua



Cell phone photo taken on 1 Oct, 2012 shows the site of a road accident which claimed 6 lives on a pivotal expressway linking Beijing with Shanghai near Beijing, capital of China. Six people, including five German nationals and a Chinese, were killed and 14 others injured after a tourist bus rear-ended a container truck and caught fire on Monday morning on the expressway. —XINHUA

Asian factory sector struggles to shake off euro malaise

BEIJING/TOKYO, 1 Oct—Asia's manufacturers are continuing to struggle in the face of tepid demand from the United States and Europe, according to business surveys and data releases on Monday that underlined the fragility of the global economy.

More data later is expected to confirm that the euro zone is mired in recession while the prospects of a firmer US recovery remain delicately balanced.

Equity and commodity markets slipped in Asia, where China's official manufacturing purchasing managers index (PMI) showed factory activity contracted for a second straight month in September and a survey of Japan's big manufacturers showed sentiment worsening over the past three months.

Adding to signs that the region's vast factory sector is flagging in the face of strong global headwinds, Taipei's PMI fell to its lowest in 10 months and South Korea re-

ported a small year-on-year decline in exports. "I don't see troubles stabilizing as yet. It will take a while longer until global demand shows signs of stabilization," said Saktiandi Supaat, foreign exchange research head at Maybank in Singapore.

The China survey, the most closely watched by investors, underscored expectations that the motor of the global economy in recent years almost certainly endured a seventh straight quarter of slowing growth.

Overall, September's manufacturing PMI rose to 49.8 in September from 49.2 in August, which had been the lowest reading since November 2011. A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion and below 50 contraction.

"The data continues to reinforce the hard landing that we have predicted for China, because this is the second consecutive month of a sub-50 reading," said Prakash Sakpal of ING in Singapore, which forecasts

China's economic growth will be close to 7 percent in both the third and fourth quarters of this year. The official data followed a private-sector PMI survey on Saturday by HSBC that showed overall factory activity shrank for an 11th consecutive month in September.

Two cuts to interest rates, an easing of compulsory bank reserve requirements that freed about 1.2 trillion yuan (\$190 billion) for lending and approval of more than \$150 billion worth of infrastructure projects have so far failed to arrest the decline in China's overall growth.

China's annual economic growth could ease to 7.4 percent in the third quarter, the seventh consecutive quarter of slowdown, before picking up to 7.6 percent in the final three months, according to the latest Reuters poll. That would leave 2012 growth below 8 percent, a level not seen since 1999.

Reuters

Afghan police kill 38 Taleban militants in 24 hours

KABUL, 1 Oct—Afghan police backed the army and the NATO-led forces have killed 38 Taleban fighters and injured nearly two dozen others over the past 24 hours, the Interior Ministry said in a statement released here on Monday. "During the past 24 hours, Afghan National Police backed by the army and the NATO-led Coalition Forces launched nine joint cleanup operations in Faryab, Sar-e-Pul, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Wardak, Logar, Paktika and Paktiya provinces during which 38 armed Taleban rebels have been killed, 23 wounded and 10 others arrested," the statement contended. However, it did not say if there were any casualties on the security forces. Taleban militants have yet to make comment.—Xinhua

Cambodia, United Arab Emirates seek possibilities to expand trade, investment ties

PHNOM PENH, 1 Oct—Cambodia's Minister of Commerce Cham Prasidh on Monday met with visiting Minister of Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi to discuss ways to strengthen and expand bilateral trade and investment ties.

The meeting would pave the way for cooperation between the two countries

in halal food and rice deals in the future, Cham Prasidh said in the meeting. He said that for halal food, Cambodia planned to negotiate with Malaysia for cooperation to produce halal food products to export to Dubai.

On the rice side, Cambodia wanted Dubai investors to broker Cambodian milled rice for countries surrounding the Persian Gulf, he said.

Sheikha Lubna said her visit to Cambodia was to widen trade and investment opportunities between the two countries, adding that the bilateral trade volume was 89 million US dollars last year, up 121 percent year-on-year.

"The trade volume is still small, there are more opportunities to strengthen and expand our bilateral trade ties," she said.—Xinhua



An aerobatic display is staged to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, in Liuzhou, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 30 Sept, 2012. Mid-Autumn Festival, which falls on 30 Sept this year, is a traditional Chinese festival, with the convention of family reunion and eating mooncakes. —XINHUA

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Class 9: "Protection masks"

Class 10: "Respiratory masks for medical purposes"

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Yangon. 2nd October 2012



Argentina's President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner delivers a public address at the John F Kennedy Jr Forum at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts on 27 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

BUENOS AIRES, 1 Oct— Argentina President Cristina Fernandez's popularity continued its downward slide

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (125)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (125) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES**

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Argentina president's image slides further as

Argentina CPI, crime weigh

in September, sinking to 24.3 percent from 30 percent in August, according to a poll published on Sunday, as high inflation and worries over

term, Fernandez had a 64.1 percent popularity rating while campaigning on promises of deepening the interventionist policy model of her late husband and predecessor as president, Nestor Kirchner.

The 24.3 percent popularity rate for September is the lowest of Fernandez's second term. It had been at 38.1 percent in July.

But the economy has been seen slowing sharply due to high inflation, a sluggish world economy, waning demand from top

crime weighed. As recently as September 2011, a month before winning her second

Italy business lobby head against second Monti government

Italy

ROME, 1 Oct— Italy needs a strong political government, not another technocrat administration when Prime Minister Mario Monti's term ends in the spring, the head of the country's main employers' confederation said on Sunday.

Talk of Monti being reinstated after the elections has been swirling in Italy and the prime minister said in New York on Thursday that if no clear winner emerges from the vote he would be willing to



Italy's Confindustria newly appointed chairman Giorgio Squinzi gestures as he speaks during a news conference in Rome on 22 March, 2012.—REUTERS

carry on if asked to.

However, the unelected former European commissioner also made it clear that he would not be a candidate at the election. Many politicians, especially on the centre-left which leads in the polls, are cool to the idea of Monti continuing.

"I don't think a non-candidate can run the next government, because what we have seen in these months is a government experience which has honestly shown a lot of difficulties," Confindustria President Giorgio Squinzi told *Rome daily Il Messaggero*.

"We need safe political leadership which wins the majority of votes and has stability, a programme, and the ability to carry it out."

Angelino Alfano, the national secretary of Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right People of Freedom party was also hostile to the idea of Monti carrying on unless he ran at the elections.

"I think we have to respect the election result," Alfano said in an interview with Sky Italia television channel.

"How would a second Monti government come about? It's technically unexplainable."

Reuters

Chicago Fed warned on high-frequency trading, SEC slow to respond

NEW YORK, 1 Oct—More than two years ago, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago was pushing the US Securities and Exchange Commission to get serious about the dangers of superfast computer-driven trading. Only now is the SEC getting around to taking a closer look at some of those issues.

Critics of the SEC say the delay is part of a pattern of inaction in dealing with the fallout from high frequency trading and shows that the regulator doesn't yet fully appreciate how fears of machine-driven market meltdowns are driving investors away from US markets.

Even as the SEC gears up for a meeting on

Tuesday to discuss software glitches and how to tame rapid-fire trading, the eighth public forum it has had in two years on market structure issues, regulators in Canada, Australia and Germany are moving ahead with plans to introduce speed limits to safeguard markets from the machines.

One item up for discussion is whether regulators should require trading firms and exchanges to deploy a "kill switch" so that they can quickly shut down a runaway high-speed computer program. That's one of the seven recommendations the Chicago Fed made to the SEC in its 25 March, 2010, letter.

The Chicago Fed said exchanges and other trading platforms should install more

Baghdad to make payments to ease Kurd oil conflict

Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Oct—Oil payments from Baghdad to Iraq's Kurdish region will be transferred today, Kurdish Energy Minister Ashti Hawrami said on Sunday, offering hope that a long-running conflict between the central government and autonomous region is easing.

Baghdad and Kurdistan agreed earlier this month to draw a line under a dispute over oil payments after the latter pledged to continue exports and Baghdad said it would pay foreign companies working there.

Kurdistan has riled Baghdad by signing deals with foreign oil majors, such as Exxon and Chevron, contracts the central government rejects as illegal.

"Payments will be transferred to the Kurdish regional government today: that's what I've been told in Baghdad today," Hawrami told reporters in the Iraqi capital.

Small oil producers like London-based Genel Energy and DNO of Norway have been in the region for about a decade. Majors including Exxon, Chevron and Total are newer arrivals.



The seal of the US Securities and Exchange Commission hangs on the wall at SEC headquarters in Washington, on 24 June, 2011.

REUTERS

risk controls, even if it slowed down trading, including a "kill switch" at the trader workstation level.

Reuters

"This is great news. Payments are crucial for us to keep oil flowing" said an official with a company operating in Kurdistan.

The oil contracts row, however, is part of a broader battle between the Baghdad government and Kurdistan over oil rights, territory and regional autonomy that is straining Iraq's uneasy federal union. Hawrami was in Baghdad for the meeting of a special committee formed earlier this month to try to resolve differences over the country's long-awaited oil and gas law. Iraqi Oil Minister Abdul-Kareem Luaibi, who also attended, described the talks as "very positive".—Reuters

Egypt signs \$1 billion Turkish loan deal

Egypt

CAIRO, 1 Oct—Egypt signed a deal on Sunday to loan \$1 billion from Turkey, half of the aid package Ankara promised Cairo earlier this month, Egypt's state news agency reported.

President Mohamed Mursi signed the loan agreement with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan after giving a speech at Turkey's ruling AK Party conference.

"President Mohamed Mursi and Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan agreed on signing a loan worth \$1 billion dollars from Turkey," MENA state news agency said, quoting Egypt's finance minister. It did not give further details of the agreement.

In his conference speech, Mursi spoke of strong regional policy ties with Turkey and praised it for being the first country to back the Egyptian revolution which toppled Hosni Mubarak and led to the Muslim Brotherhood winning power.

Officials of Mursi's Freedom and Justice Party have said they do not look to Turkey and its AK Party as a political model.

However, analysts say Egypt's new Islamist rulers are taking notes from Turkish party's success in building a regional economic powerhouse which has delivered strong growth.—Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

Monsters party tops box office with "Hotel Transylvania"

LOS ANGELES, 1 Oct—Family film "Hotel Transylvania" brought new life to movie box offices with a chart-topping \$43 million in US and Canadian ticket sales during the weekend, a record for a September opening.

The animated 3-D movie featuring the voices of Adam Sandler and Selena Gomez finished ahead of new science fiction film "Looper," which took in \$21.2 million from Friday through Sunday.

The police drama "End of Watch," which tied with

has struggled through several weeks of sluggish attendance.

In "Hotel Transylvania," Frankenstein, the Invisible Man and other monsters gather for a party at a high-end resort operated by Dracula. Their celebration is disrupted when a boy discovers the hotel and falls in love with Dracula's daughter but must deal her overprotective father.

The film's domestic sales far exceeded distributor Sony Corp's prediction for \$25

million-plus from the North American (U.S. and Canadian) market. The movie added \$8.1 million from international markets, for a global debut of \$51.1 million.

"It's absolutely an incredible result," said Rory Bruer, president of worldwide distribution for Sony Corp's Sony Pictures studio, adding that the studio had hoped for something in the \$30 million range, which he noted "in this market would have been extraordinary."

The hefty take easily beat the September opening record of \$35.65 million for "Sweet Home Alabama," which had stood for 10 years.

"Hotel Transylvania" cost \$85 million to produce. *Reuters*



US actress Anne Hathaway.—REUTERS

Anne Hathaway marries in Big Sur

Hathaway, 29, known for roles in "The Devil Wears Prada," "The Princess Diaries" and "The Dark Knight Rises," married jewelry designer Shulman at a private estate on the rugged Pacific Ocean coastline south of San Francisco, according to reports in *People* and *Us* magazines which included pictures of Hathaway in a white gown with veil and train.

The couple became engaged last November and married on Saturday night before more than 100 invited

guests, with Hathaway wearing a custom Valentino gown, *People* said. It was the first marriage for each.

"They were posing for pictures after the wedding and seemed giddy and on an adrenaline high," *Us* quoted a witness to the wedding as saying.

Hathaway was nominated for an Academy Award for her role in "Rachel Getting Married" and will next be seen in the upcoming film adaptation of "Les Misérables." *Reuters*

Christie's offers Bond items on 50th anniversary

LONDON, 1 Oct—Christie's will offer 50 items of James Bond memorabilia over the coming week in a charity sale that culminates in a live auction next Friday, the 50th anniversary of the release of the first 007 movie "Dr No".

The auction, which will raise funds for a range of charities including UNICEF, is one of a series of events being held around the world to mark the anniversary of one of the world's longest-running and most successful film franchises.

Fifty lots will be up for sale, many of them coming from EON Productions, the company behind the movie series.

Of the total, 40 will be sold online between 28 September and 8 October

and 10 of the star items have been reserved for the live auction on 5 October, "Global James Bond Day", at Christie's offices in South Kensington in London.

All lots will go on public display there from Saturday until 4 October. Admittance is free.

"I think what we wanted to do was to celebrate the 50th anniversary in a meaningful way and let people have the opportunity to buy some of the things in our archive that we could raise money for charity from," said Michael G. Wilson, who along with Barbara Broccoli is guardian of the Bond films.

"There's a lot of things ... from 1,000 pounds (\$1,600) on up, really," he told

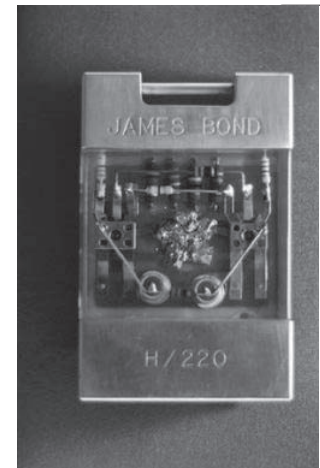
Reuters. "There's plenty of things for a whole range of collectors."

Among the highlights for him was a one-third scale model of an Aston Martin DB5 used in the filming of "Skyfall", the next Bond adventure which hits the

screens in October.

The car was used in earlier Bonds and has become closely associated with the fictional double agent.

"In Skyfall we go back to the old Aston Martin, the DB5, we bring that out of mothball," Wilson said.—*Reuters*



The original Solex Agitator used by Christopher Lee in the film "The Man With The Golden Gun", is seen during a media preview of "50 Years of James Bond - the Auction", at Christie's in London on 28 Sept, 2012. The piece is estimated to sell for 1,200 - 1,800 GBP (\$2,000-3,000) at an online-only auction from 28 to 8 Sept Oct. *REUTERS*



Actor Adam Sandler poses with mascots of characters from "Hotel Transylvania", as he arrives on the red carpet for the film's gala presentation at the 37th Toronto International Film Festival, on 8 Sept, 2012. *REUTERS*

"House at the End of the Street" for the top spot last week, landed in third place with \$8 million, according to studio estimates. The big turnout for the top films helped revive a box office that

million-plus from the North American (U.S. and Canadian) market. The movie added \$8.1 million from international markets, for a global debut of \$51.1 million.

"It's absolutely an

Films Division to organize film festival on Gandhi

MUMBAI, 1 Oct—Films Division of India is celebrating Mahatma Gandhi's 143rd birth anniversary by organising a festival of films and art called 'BAAPU'.

The event, between 2 and 5 October, 2012, will have screenings of films on the father of nation, such as 'Gandhi', 'The Making of The Mahatma', 'Gandhi My Father', 'Maine Gandhi Ko Nahin Mara', 'Lage Raho Munna Bhai'.—*PTI*



Alia

Auditioned 400 girls before signing Alia Bhatt: Karan Johar

NEW DELHI, 1 Oct— Indian director-producer Karan Johar, who is launching Mahesh Bhatt's daughter Alia in his upcoming film "Student Of The Year", says the newcomer wasn't the first choice for the movie.

The 19-year-old debutante plays the role of a rich brat named Shanaya Singhania in the film, which also stars newbies Varun Dhawan and Siddharth Malhotra.

"We screen tested over 400 girls from across Mumbai and other cities.—*PTI*

Lindsay Lohan assaulted in a New York hotel, man arrested

NEW YORK, 1 Oct— Actress Lindsay Lohan was attacked by a man in a New York hotel on Sunday, her spokesman said, in what media reports described as a scuffle over her demands that photos of her be deleted from his cellphone.

Lohan suffered minor injuries following the Sunday morning attack, spokesman Steve Honig said in a statement.

Her assailant was arrested, Honig said. A spokeswoman for the New York City Police Department did not immediately comment.

Celebrity website TMZ.com, citing sources close to the actress, identified the attacker as a man Lohan met at a New York nightclub.

The two began arguing in Lohan's hotel room after she noticed he was taking pictures of her with his cellphone, TMZ and E! News reported.

Lohan told police the man

threw her to the ground, climbed on top of her and tried to choke her before someone else pulled him off, TMZ said.

Honig declined comment on the media reports.

The 26-year-old actress, who has been in and out of

court, rehab and prison in recent years, was arrested in New York last week after a pedestrian told police that her car struck him in an alley. She was charged with leaving the scene of an accident, a misdemeanor. *Reuters*



Actress Lindsay Lohan attends the White House Correspondents' Association annual dinner in Washington on 28 April, 2012. *REUTERS*

SPORTS

Real president tightens defences against non-members

MADRID, 1 Oct—Real Madrid president Florentino Perez has won the backing of members for statute changes that will make it harder for outsiders to seize control of the wealthy La Liga club.

The changes, approved at a general assembly in Madrid on Sunday, will mean presidential candidates will have to have been club members for at least 20 years, up from 10 years.

They must also personally provide a guarantee worth 15 percent of the club's budget —around 75 million euros (59.6

million pounds) — rather than relying on any third party as has sometimes happened in the past.

A construction magnate and one of Spain's richest men, Perez told members he had nothing against "sheikhs or Russians" and was attempting to protect the club and its 70,000 members, who legally own the Spanish champions and elect the president.

"Sincerely, not just anyone can come here and take over the club, however much gift of the gab he has, and run it into the ground," Perez said.

"This is not a petanque club, it's the most important sporting institution in the world," he added.

"If a sheikh, a club member, wants to provide the guarantee let him come and do it, but it must be in his name.

"A third party cannot guarantee a candidacy because it is against the spirit of sport and against us.

"I don't want to think badly of anyone but this is a matter for our members and not outsiders."—Reuters



Real Madrid president Florentino Perez

Gasquet wins all-French final in Bangkok to end drought

Tennis

BANGKOK, 1 Oct—Richard Gasquet won his first ATP title in more than two years when he continued his domination of Gilles Simon by swatting aside his French compatriot 6-2, 6-1 to claim the Thailand Open on Sunday.

The indoor hardcourt title was the seventh of Gasquet's career and the easy victory improved his record over Simon to 6-0.

The 250 rankings points will also help improve the world number 14's chances of reaching the season ending World Tour finals in London in November for the top eight men.

Fourth-seed Simon started brightly by breaking Gasquet in the opening game before unravelling in the



Thailand Open tennis tournament men's singles winner Richard Gasquet (R) of France lifts up his trophy next to runner-up compatriot Gilles Simon in Bangkok on 30 September, 2012. —REUTERS

lopsided contest in the Thailand capital with his failure to win points on his serve letting him down.

"I played against a French player who is also my

friend so of course it a little bit strange but for me it's a title and I've had some tough matches this week so I'm very happy to win," Gasquet told reporters. —Reuters

Golf Europe win Ryder Cup with stunning comeback

MEDINAH, 1 Oct—Inspired by the spirit of Seve Ballesteros, Europe's big guns all delivered as Jose Maria Olazabal's players produced an astonishing comeback to win the Ryder Cup by 14-1/2 points to 13-1/2 at Medinah Country Club on Sunday.

Needing to claim eight points in the concluding singles to retain the trophy, Europe won six of the first eight encounters before Germany's Martin Kaymer secured the vital point to retain the Cup by beating Steve Stricker one up.

After Stricker had coolly holed his par putt from eight feet at the last, Kaymer buried his five-footer for a matching par before thrusting his arms skywards in delight.

"It's indescribable," the German told reporters. "I was so nervous the last two, three holes. I loved it. It's amazing."

With the chance of a tie resting on the final match, Tiger Woods astonishingly missed a three-foot par putt on the 18th green to halve his contest with Italy's Francesco Molinari, handing Europe outright victory.

Europe, who sent out their best players early, emulated the miracle comeback achieved by the US at Brookline in 1999 when they also overhauled a deficit of 10-6 on the final day.

The Americans had been bidding to triumph in the biennial competition for only the second time in six editions.

"We believed in our hearts we could win this,"



Team Europe golfer Luke Donald of England reacts to his sand shot that won his match against US golfer Bubba Watson on the 17th green during the 39th Ryder Cup singles golf matches at the Medinah.— REUTERS

Englishman Luke Donald said. "It's been done before and we believed we could turn it around."

The Europeans drew inspiration on Sunday from their beloved Ballesteros,

who died last year aged 54 after a battle with cancer, with every player wearing the navy blue colours favoured by the Spaniard in the final rounds of tournaments.

Reuters

Tottenham's Bale eyes foreign move "in the future"

LONDON, 1 Oct—Tottenham Hotspur's flying winger Gareth Bale finds the idea of one day playing abroad appealing despite signing a new four-year deal with the Premier League side in June.

The 23-year-old

Welshman has long been coveted by top European names such as Inter Milan.

"I'd never be scared of it," he told Saturday's Guardian newspaper while admitting he did have a fear of spiders.

"It's something I'd like to experience. It's in the future but if something did come up I would obviously look at it with interest."

Spurs visit Manchester United later and are still getting used to life under new coach Andre Villas-Boas, who ruffled too many feathers at Chelsea last season and was given the sack.

Reports have also said his training methods have not won universal approval at their London rivals but Bale said the Portuguese was a good listener.

"For example, if we feel we are working too hard in training, if we say that to him, then he'll ease off. He's still learning as well as a manager," Bale said.

"Sometimes it just takes a bit of time."

The left winger also sought to clear up confusion over why he pulled out of Britain's Olympic squad in July only to appear for Tottenham in pre-season friendlies at the same time as the Games football tournament.

"I had a problem with my back. I just wasn't expecting to recover that quickly," said Bale, who added that British Olympic defender Micah Richards is the toughest right back he has faced despite the Manchester City man's continual England snub.

Richards, who has won 13 caps, last played for the national team in February and was not selected for Euro 2012 under coach Roy Hodgson who was appointed in May.

Reuters

US 13-1/2 Europe 14-1/2 - Ryder Cup result

Golf

MEDINAH, (Illinois), 1 Oct— Completed scores after Sunday's concluding singles matches between hosts the United States and holders Europe in the 39th Ryder Cup at Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois:

- Europe beat the US by 14-1/2 points to 13-1/2
- Match 1 Luke Donald (Europe) beat Bubba Watson (United States) 2&1
- Match 2 Ian Poulter (Europe) beat Webb Simpson (United States) 2up
- Match 3 Rory McIlroy (Europe) beat Keegan Bradley (United States) 2&1
- Match 4 Justin Rose (Europe) Beat Phil Mickelson (United States) 1up
- Match 5 Paul Lawrie (Europe) beat Brandt Snedeker (United States) 5&3



Team Europe golfer Ian Poulter of England celebrates after winning the Ryder Cup during the 39th Ryder Cup singles golf matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois, on 30 September, 2012.

REUTERS

- Match 6 Dustin Johnson (United States) beat Nicolas Colsecaerts (Europe) 3&2
- Match 7 Zach Johnson (United States) beat Graeme McDowell (Europe) 2&1
- Match 8 Sergio Garcia (Europe) beat Jim Furyk (United States) 1up
- Match 9 Jason Dufner (United States) beat Peter Hanson (Europe) 2up
- Match 10 Lee Westwood (Europe) beat Matt Kuchar (United States) 3&2
- Match 11 Martin Kaymer (Europe) beat Steve Stricker (United States) 1up
- Match 12 Tiger Woods (United States) halved with Francesco Molinari (Europe)

Reuters



Tottenham Hotspur's flying winger Gareth Bale.

REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(2-10-12 09:30 am ~ 3-10-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * World Tourism Day 2012
- * News
- * Medicinal Properties of Frangipani Flower
- * News
- * World School Milk Day
- * News
- * ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Workshop Series 3 AEC Brainstorming Tourism Investment, Logistics and SMES
- * News
- * Chiz Co Co's Leftovers from Century

- * News
- * Peace Education Symposium
- * International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2012
- * News
- * Wathan Film Festival (Nargis Special Screening)
- * News
- * Potent Noni, Organic Medicine
- * Myanmar Movie "Love and its dignity"

MYANMAR TV

(2-10-2012, Tuesday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- Uppatahandi Paritta
- 7:25 am

- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Public Policy)
- 7:50 am
- 5. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:05 am
- 7. Songs Of Yester Years
- 8:15 am
- 8. Song Of National Races
- 8:25 am
- 10. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012)(Oldies & Mono Classial)(Basic Education Level) (Women)
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm
- 2. Musical Programme
- 4:35 pm
- 4. Teleplay (Traffic)
- 4:45 pm
- 5. University of Distance
- 5:00 pm
- 6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
- 7. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
- 5:15 pm
- 8. Road to 27th SEA GAMES (Judo)
- 5:30 pm
- 9. Sweet Melody
- 6:20 pm
- 13. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than
- 6:35 pm
- 14. Sing A Song
- 8:00 pm
- 16. News
- 20. Bakery World
- 21. TV Drama Series
- 22. India Drama Series

16 killed in traffic accident in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 1 Oct—At least 16 people were killed when a truck and a van had a head-on collision in northern Mexico's Coahuila state, local media reported Sunday.

Witness said the truck invaded the opposite lane of the highway Viesca-Matamoros and directly hit the van shortly before 22:00 hours on Saturday (0300 GMT Sunday), as reported by the local newspaper "El Universal" quoting the Coahuila state police.

The driver of the truck fled the scene after the accident. At least 16 people were killed in the traffic accident, among the dead were two girls just a few months old and another of 3 years who were traveling with the family to the nearby town of Hidalgo Congregation.

The Red Cross ambulances immediately arrived at the scene and firefighters were given the task of rescuing the victims who were among the twisted iron bars. The bodies of the victims were taken by forensic services for further examination.

Spokesmen for the State Police reported that the vehicle involved was a tractor-trailer closed box owned by Mexico freight, and a Ford Ranger pick-up.—Xinhua

DISTRICT NEWS

Township Administrator's Cup concludes

MYAUNGMYA, 1 Oct—The Myaungmya Township Administrator's Cup U-25 Inter-Village/Ward Football Tournament 2012 reached the final match on 23 September.

In the afternoon, the final match was held at Myoma Sports Ground where Ward 3+Moksokwin Village B team beat Moksokwin A team.

Deputy Commissioner U Aung Myin of Myaungmya District General Administration Department, the Commander of District Police Force and Ayeyawady Region Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Ko Ko presented prizes to the winning teams and best players in respective places in the tournament.

Myanma Alin



Israel frees two Hamas lawmakers in West Bank

RAMALLAH, 1 Oct—Israeli authorities on Sunday released two lawmakers in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) in the West Bank.

Local rights groups' sources told Xinhua that Israel released Samir al-Qadi and Abdel Rahman Zeidan, who are also members of the Islamic Hamas movement in the West Bank.

After spending 16 months in an Israeli jail under the administrative detention, al-Qadi was released at an Israeli army checkpoint near the southern West Bank city of Hebron and Zeidan was released at an Israeli checkpoint near Ramallah.

Hamas members in the PLC said in a press statement that the Israeli attempts to keep Hamas lawmakers imprisoned in its jails "is a poor attempt to deprive the Palestinians of their parliamentary rights."

Hamas, which dominates the PLC with 74 out of 132 seats, said in the statement that it calls on the Arab and international parliaments to pressure Israel to release all the Palestinian lawmakers and PLC members from its jails.

Xinhua



Passengers queue at a waiting room of the railway station in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 1 Oct, 2012.

The railway transportation in China is expected to send nine million passengers on Monday, the second day of the eight-day "Golden Week" holiday.

XINHUA

Monaco wins in Malaysia for year's fourth title

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Oct—Argentine Juan Monaco battled for more than three hours to defeat Frenchman Julien Benneteau 7-5 4-6 6-3 in the Malaysian Open final on Sunday for his fourth ATP title of the year.

Monaco, ranked 11th in the world, kept alive his hopes of qualifying for November's season-ending World Tour finals in London as one of the top eight ranked players.

"I celebrated with my team in the locker room and tonight I'll have Malaysian food with my team," Monaco told reporters after his seventh ATP title.

"I think we played a great

match, with a lot of ups and downs. I got a little nervous when I had chances, but I never gave up.

"He surprised me a little bit with his comeback in the second set. In the final set, I knew I had to be more aggressive and I am happy the way I finished the match."

Benneteau, 30, ranked 34th in the world, lost his seventh career final and will continue his quest for his first ATP title.

"I was very focused on this game, because I wanted to win this final," Benneteau said.

"The fans were great, there were a lot of French in

the crowd. It was a nice atmosphere and the game was a good level."—Reuters



Juan Monaco of Argentina celebrates after defeating Julien Benneteau of France in their final match at the Malaysian Open tennis tournament in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Sunday, on 30 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Two Kenyan police shot dead near Somalia border

GARISSA, 1 Oct—Two police officers were shot dead in Kenya on Sunday in the northern town of Garissa close to the border with Somalia, police said, hours after a child was killed in a grenade attack on a church in Nairobi.

Kenya has been hit by a series of grenade and gun attacks since it sent troops into Somalia last October in pursuit of Islamist al Shabaab militants whom it blamed for

kidnapping its security personnel and Western tourists.

The killing of the police officers and the attack on the church came days after Kenyan troops launched a surprise offensive on the southern Somali port of Kismayu, al Shabaab's last stronghold, forcing the rebels to flee.

Most of the inhabitants of Garissa, where the police

officers were shot, are ethnic Somalis and the town is located only 180km (111 miles) from Kenya's border with Somalia. Herman Ndiema, Garissa's deputy police chief, told Reuters the two officers were killed as they walked to a technical college they had been assigned to guard. Their killers drove up to them in a taxi, shot them dead, and then jumped out to steal their guns, he said.—Reuters

Death toll of minibus crash in Zimbabwe rises to 15

HARARE, 1 Oct—The death toll of a commuter omnibus crash in eastern Zimbabwean province of Manicaland has risen to 15 as two more passengers died in hospital, police said on Sunday.

Nine died on the spot when a commuter omnibus they were travelling in collided head-on with a haulage truck along the Harare-Mutare highway, while four others were pronounced dead on admission at Rusape General Hospital. Two others died late on Saturday.

National traffic police spokesperson Assistant Inspector Tigere Chigome confirmed the accident, saying that the omnibus hit a cow and encroached onto the opposite lane, resulting in the accident.

The accident comes barely four days after another fatal accident took place where six people were killed while 12 others were injured on on September 24. The accident occurred in the morning when a Mbare-bound commuter omnibus overturned along Chitungwiza Road.

Four people died on the spot while one died on admission to Chitungwiza Central Hospital. The sixth person died on his way to Parirenyatwa Hospital from Chitungwiza Central Hospital.

Xinhua

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and party to attend ASEP-7 meeting

YANGON, 1 Oct—Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint left here by air this afternoon to attend the 7th Asian-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP-7) to be held from 3 to 5 October in Lao People’s Democratic Republic and to pay a goodwill visit to Australia from 7 to 12 October.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin, Secretary of Amyotha Hluttaw Finance and Legal Affairs Commission U Myint Thein, Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U

Tin Aung, Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Nilahath Sayarath, Charge d’ Affaires of Australian Embassy to Myanmar Ms. Ruth Stewart and officials.

Members of Myanmar delegation were Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Public Accounts Committee U Thein Win, Secretary of Amyotha Hluttaw Local and Foreign Workers’ Affairs Committee U Saw Maw Tun, member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Soe Myint, Secretary of Amyotha Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Htay Maung, member of Amyotha Hluttaw Economic and Commerce Committee Dr Soe Win and Director-General of Hluttaw Office U Kyaw Soe.—MNA

Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint to attend the 7th Asian-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP-7) being seen off at the Yangon International Airport by officials.



MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Announcement No. (4/2012)

1st Waning of Tawthalin, 1374 ME

(1st October, 2012)

Fifth Regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw summoned

Under the Section 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Article 13 of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law, it is hereby announced that the fifth regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be convened at 10.00 am on 7th waxing of Thadingyut, 1374 ME (22 October, 2012).

Sd/Khin Aung Myint
Speaker
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Wrestlers under training for XXVII SEA Games

YANGON, 1 Oct—Myanmar Wrestling Federation is training its athletes as part of efforts to achieve victories in the XXVII SEA Games 2013.

Myanma Alin news crew held an interview with in-charge of wrestling event U Thurein Tun (Assistant Director) of the federation at National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna recently. The in-charge said, “Our federation took part in the wrestling event of the XXVI SEA Games with five men athletes. They secured five bronze medals. The federation opened wrestling sports to 50 trainees from 5 to 14 September 2012. The Turkish coach picked out outstanding athletes among the trainees and then managed training for 30 men and women athletes as of 20 September.”

He continued, “The athletes are under two training sessions from 7.30 am to 9.30 am and from 3.30 pm to 5 pm daily. The federation hired Turkish coach Mr Nureddin Kurt for training. Best 10 players among those who are taking part in the training session will be sent to Turkey in December and January and to take joint exercise with world class Turkish athletes. Our athletes will take part in the men freestyle, men Greco Roman and women freestyle in the wrestling event of the SEA Games.”

In the XXVII SEA Games, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines may be main rivals for Myanmar in the wrestling event.—Myanma Alin



Myanma Alin

Messi wants more than just accolades

MADRID, 1 Oct—Lionel Messi wants to be remembered as a good friend and colleague to his team mates rather than as the best player in the world, the unassuming Argentine said in an interview on Monday.

The 25-year-old Barcelona forward has won three consecutive World Player of the Year awards, and is expected to be in the running for a fourth this year, after scoring an unprecedented 73 goals in all competitions last season.

“I prefer to win titles with the team ahead of individual awards or scoring more goals than anyone else,” Messi told Spanish daily EL Pais. “I am more worried about being a good person than being the best football player in the world. When all this is over, what are you left with?”

“When I retire, I hope I am remembered for being a

decent guy. I like to score goals but I also like to have friends among the people I have played with.”

Messi is expecting the birth of his first child, a boy to be named Thiago, in the next month, but does not seem to have been distracted on the pitch.

He has netted 10 goals in all competitions so far, under Pep Guardiola’s former assistant Tito Vilanova.—Reuters



Specialists make field trip to grassroots level

KYAUKSE, 1 Oct—Medical Superintendent Dr Yin Thanda Lwin, specialists and nurses of Kyaukse General Hospital of Mandalay Region on 22 September provided school health care services in Yanponhnit Village.

Health personnel explained dysentery, diarrhoea, tuberculosis and dengue hemorrhagic fever diseases.

The medical superintendent donated K 182,000 and Chairperson of Kyaukse District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Aye Aye Win K 50,000 to the fund for construction of village gravel road.

Later, specialists and health personnel provided medical treatment to 658 patients.

Myanma Alin

Gasquet wins all-French final in Bangkok to end drought



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Qatar’s modern future rubs up against conservative traditions



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