

Our Three Main National Causes * **Non-disintegration of the Union** * **Non-disintegration of National Solidarity** * **Perpetuation of Sovereignty**

Teachers on their parts to try to become a qualified one and keep five teacher ethics

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct— Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addressed the commemorative ceremony of the World Teachers' Day-2012, held with the Motto of "Take a stand for teachers", at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, at 10 am today.

At the ceremony, after students of No. 2 Basic Education High School had sung the song titled "Noble Teacher", the Vice-President extended greetings.

He said that the ILO/ UNESCO Recommendation

concerning the Status of Teachers was adopted on 5 October 1996 at a special intergovernmental conference convened by UNESCO in Paris in cooperation with the ILO. The World Teachers' Day has been held around the worlds since 1994. At present, over 100 countries hold it annually.

Among those who give somebody knowledge by making him see or hear or learn, the one whose technique's teaching is the best. A teacher is the one who teaches someone at school or

outside school. The success of a student depends on his teachers' skills, patience, wide knowledge, as well as his intelligence, tiring efforts including his parents' supporting.

Only when a teacher has committed to his/her teaching with heart and soul will students be proficient in their respective subjects. A teacher must be delighted at the time when his students get success while his irresponsibility must be kept in mind when his students fail in. That is the character of a noble teacher. To be a noble one, teachers are to be skillful not only in quality but also respectable dignity. Therefore, teaching profession is noble because it is full of responsibility to make sacrifice and have hobby and benevolence. It is everyone knowledge that without diligence and strenuous efforts, no one can be a good teacher.

The World Teachers' Day is annually held in the countries in different ways. The different forms for instanse,

(a) Honouring teachers by holding a simple ceremony



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses the commemorative ceremony of World Teachers' Day-2012. MNA

(b) Holding the ceremony in the form of a conference on relation between teachers' role and education

(c) Holding such a ceremony with an honour of teachers by giving a chance to take courses on their respective or weak subjects

(d) Giving teachers honours through postcards, honouring certificates, calling telephones, sending phone messages, and e-mail

(e) Honouring the teachers by putting the spotlight on their socic-economic difficulties and needs

Seeing back of the history on producing mottos of the World Teachers' Day for each year since 1997, the meanings of the translation (See page 8)

"The teachers play a crucial role in education sector. the time has come to explore ways to promote socio-economic status of teachers as there is no substitute in the place of teachers."

MoU on implementation of gas-fired combined cycle power plant project (Thaketa) inked



PAGE 7



Venezuela's Chavez fights young rival in re-election bid

PAGE 6

Obama fights back after debate setback



PAGE 10

Security increased in Shanghai after Federer death threat

BEIJING, 5 Oct—Shanghai Masters organizers have increased security for the tournament starting on Saturday after an online threat to decapitate world number one Roger Federer, the Shanghai Youth Daily newspaper reported on Friday.

"On October 6 I plan to assassinate Federer in order to exterminate tennis," read a post by "Blue Cat Polytheistic Leader 07" on a Federer fan website on September 25, the newspaper's website said.

The paper said the post was accompanied by a "very scary" computer modified image showing a decapitated Federer.

Federer may go directly from the airport's VIP arrival hall to his hotel as part of the precautions, Yang Yibin, the tournament director, told the paper in an interview earlier in the week. It said Shanghai police were investigating.

Local journalists said Shanghai municipal authorities had told local media not to report the issue.—Reuters

Qatar Airways holds press conference

YANGON, 5 Oct— Qatar Airways operates thrice a week and it plans to expand its flight Doha-Yangon beginning 28 October and will connect with over 90 wings through Europe, Middle East, Africa and America for convenience destination, Airbus A 319 aircraft has 8 business class and 102 economy class, said Qatar Airways Chief Executive Officer Mr. Akbar Al Baker at the press conference on launch of Qatar Airways held at Strand Hotel here this morning.

The CEO of Qatar Airways continued to say that the airways is offering services with over 800 entertainments and is operating over 120 flights with 110 planes. Arrangements are being made to expand over 170 flights with over 170 planes in the future, he said. Then he replied to queries raised by media men.—MNA



NATIONAL

Myanmar, India discuss territorial waters security

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen Soe Win received Flag Officer Commander-in-Chief of Indian Navy Southern Naval Command Vice Admiral Satish Soni, AVSM, NM at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Tin Aung San, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Brig-Gen Aung Ye Win of Commander-in-Chief's Office. The Indian Flag Officer Commander-in-Chief was accompanied by Indian Military Attache to Myanmar Colonel Rajesh Kumar.

They frankly discussed ties between the two armed forces and security matters in territorial waters of two countries.—MNA



Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen Soe Win receives Flag Officer Commander-in-Chief of Indian Navy Southern Naval Command Vice Admiral Satish Soni, AVSM, NM.—MNA

Transport Subcommittee, Invitation and Liaison Subcommittee hold meetings

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—“With grasping the chance of the host country, we try to show our culture, hospitality and cleanness by holding the 27th SEA Games on a grand scale, aiming to reach some certain extend of success in sport nationally and globally. When the visitors and athletes from other countries arrive at Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon International Airport, we should take care of their accommodations till the end of their visit. Our subcommittee is taking the vital role in successful holding and closing of the Games. The special vehicles are to be arranged not only for the VIP and the leaders of sport groups but also the visitors and athletes in order to get easy access of transportation from

respective areas to sport villages. The commuter buses are being arranged to run daily without any weak points,” said Chairman of Transport Subcommittee for the 27th SEA Games Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung at the fourth coordination meeting of Transport Subcommittee and Invitation and Liaison Subcommittee for successfully holding of the 27th SEA Games held at the Ministry of Transport here this morning.

Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu made discussion on smoothly accommodations of the visitors and athletes who will take part in sport events in Nay Pyi Taw.

Chairman of Invitation and Liaison Subcommittee Deputy Minister for

Former world champion shares his tactics to Myanmar billiards players

YANGON, 5 Oct— With a view to achieving success in 27th SEA Games for Myanmar Billiards players, advanced billiards tactics were lectured by World champion, Asia champion and South East Asian champion Mr. Peter Gilchrist from Singapore at gymnasium of Myanmar Billiards and Snookers Federation in Aung San Stadium here this morning.

Myanmar Billiards and Snookers Federation President U Tin Maung Win

and Mr. Peter Gilchrist (Singapore) held a discussion on tactics for development of Myanmar billiards standard.

Mr. Peter Gilchrist (Singapore) will be trained international billiards championship tactics to selected Myanmar tentatively billiards players – Aung Htay, Nay Thwe Oo, Aung San Oo, Sithu and Pauksa not only practical but theoretical for 27th SEA Games till 10 October.

MNA

Teak logs seized in Pyu Township

PYU, 5 Oct—The head of Pyu Township Forest Department and officials searched the area along the foot of hill near Seintgyi

Village and Nyaungbintha village of Pyu Township.

At 8am on 19 September, they seized 33 logs of teak weighing 2.496 tons worth

K 550,000. The teak logs are kept in the compound of Pyu Township Forest Department.

Kyemon

Union Foreign Minister pays visit to Canada

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct—At the invitation of the Honorable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, paid an official visit to Canada from 2 to 4 October 2012.

The Union Minister held a bilateral meeting with the Canadian Foreign Minister at

Transport U Han Sein, Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung and officials explained conditions of carrying tasks.

They also made discussion on general issues and made decision about subcommittees' affairs.

The 27th SEA Games will be held from 8 to 22 December in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung with 42 sports events.—MNA

12 noon on 3 October at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada in Ottawa. At their meeting, the Union Minister updated his counterpart on measures being undertaken for political and socio-economic development of Myanmar. Moreover, the two ministers discussed on matters of mutual interest including promotion of Canadian investment and economic cooperation after lifting of the Canadian sanctions on Myanmar, providing assistance in areas such as education, health, HRD, and granting of ODA, continuation of humanitarian assistance, opening of the

Canadian Embassy in Myanmar, and cooperation in the regional and international forums including the United Nations.

Afterwards, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada hosted a luncheon in honour of the visiting Myanmar delegation led by the Union Minister.

At 2.30 hrs, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin visited the Parliament House and observed the proceedings of the Lower House of the Parliament where he was acknowledged by the Speaker and members of the Parliament.

During the visit, the Union Minister inspected

renovation of the new Myanmar Embassy building. He had also met with staff members of the Embassy and gave words of guidance.

Myanmar and Canada established diplomatic relations on 9 August 1958. At the invitation of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon. John Baird paid an official visit to Myanmar in March this year which was the first historic visit by a Canadian Foreign Minister to Myanmar. The visit of the Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin was also the first Myanmar foreign minister's visit to Canada in over 40 years.

MNA



Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung and wife being welcomed by ROK Ambassador Mr Kim Hae-Yong at the reception to mark National Foundation Day and Armed Forces Day of ROK at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 5 October.

MNA

Discussion between UMFCCI, Finland entrepreneurs on 9 Oct

YANGON, 5 Oct—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) will hold

discussion with a Finland entrepreneurs delegation led by Mr Esko Hamilo, Under Secretary of State of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland,

at UMFCCI on 9 October. Those who want to attend it are to register at UMFCCI not later than 8 October.

MNA

WORLD

EU poised to agree ban on Iranian gas imports

EU

BRUSSELS, 5 Oct— The European Union is poised to ban imports of Iranian gas as part of a set of new measures to ratchet up pressure on the Islamic Republic over its nuclear programme, diplomats said on Thursday.

Diplomats from EU member states have started preparing a package of sanctions against Iran with a goal of formally adopting them at a meeting of foreign ministers on 15 October in Luxembourg.

Late on Wednesday, they reached a preliminary deal to ban gas imports, the first measure to win approval in the package, which also consists of various finance and energy-related proposals, three EU diplomats said.

“There is agreement on

gas,” one of the diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity. “The big states back it, Germany, Britain, France,” another one said.

European governments and the United States are searching for fresh ways to pressure Teheran into scaling back its nuclear programme after diplomacy foundered earlier this year. Teheran denies its work has any military intentions.

Tensions over the issue are rising, with Israel—widely thought to be the only power in the Middle East with nuclear weapons—threatening to strike Iranian uranium enrichment installations.

The United States, since 1995, has banned US firms from investing in Iranian oil

and gas and from trading with Iran. Last December it adopted steps that prompted buyers in Japan, South Korea and India to cut Iranian oil

much slower to target Iranian energy. It imposed an embargo on Iranian oil this year, after banning the creation of joint ventures with

The Phase 6, Phase 7 and Phase 8 gas refineries are seen in Assalouyeh, 1,000 km (621 miles) south of Teheran, on 27 Jan, 2011.—REUTERS



purchases and in July it announced sanctions against foreign banks helping Teheran sell oil. The European Union has been

enterprises in Iran engaged in the oil and natural gas industries in 2010.

Existing sanctions cover investment in Iranian gas, but

do not specifically outlaw imports, which are insignificant in terms of volume but have a symbolic importance.—Reuters

Russia, US agree on joint security, counter-poaching operations in Pacific

Russia

Moscow, 5 Oct—Russia and the United States agreed to strengthen cooperation in upholding security and fighting illegal fishing in the Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, the Russian Coast Guard Service said on Thursday. The Russian and US coastal guards have signed an agreement for cooperation in 2013, which envisaged joint counter-poaching operations in the northern Pacific.

The document was signed during the US Coastal Guard commander Thomas Ostebo’s visit to the regional capital of Kamchatka Peninsula, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, in Russia’s Far East.

Ostebo is a commander of the US 17th Coastal Guard District deployed in Alaska.

In the first nine months of 2012, Russian and US coastal guards seized ten ships which had violated the border regime of either country, the Northeastern branch of Russian Coast Guard Service said on its website.

The two border services have been in contact over 500 times for the same period to coordinate operations, spokesman of the Russian Coast Guard Andrei Orlov told local media recently.

Xinhua

First major US snowstorm, cold snap may harm some crops

US

CHICAGO, 5 Oct—The first major snowfall of the year and a cold snap set to sweep into the northern Midwest could harm some late-maturing corn and soybeans crops and delay the harvest, an agricultural meteorologist and the National Weather Service said on Thursday.

The storm is centred in a small area across northeastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota, including the fertile Red River Valley, where farmers are still harvesting their corn and soybean crops after the worst drought in half a century devastated US grain this year.

Minnesota is the third largest soybean producing state in the United States and the fourth largest corn state, based on its harvest last year. North Dakota ranks number 10 in soybean production.

“There is rain changing to snow in the upper Red River Valley of eastern North Dakota and northwest Minnesota,” said John Dee, meteorologist for Global Weather Monitoring.

“It’s a small geographical area that grows

mainly spring wheat and soybeans,” Dee said.

He said from 5 to 8 inches of snow was expected by late Thursday with locally heavier amounts. “It’s an isolated storm and unique for this time of year. The snow should begin melting beginning Friday through the weekend,” he said.

As of Monday, 36 percent of North Dakota’s corn crop had been harvested and 80 percent of the soybean crop had been harvested, according to the state crop progress report.—Reuters



A damaged corn crop in Harvey County, in central Kansas on 7 Aug, 2012. REUTERS

China



Rescuers search at the landslide site in the village of Zhenhe, located in Yiliang County of Zhaotong City in southwest China’s Yunnan Province, on 4 Oct, 2012.

XINHUA

18 primary school students dead in SW China landslide

YILIANG, 5 Oct— Eighteen primary school students have been confirmed dead in a landslide on Thursday in quake-hit Yunnan Province in southwest China.

As of 2 am Friday, one villager was still missing and another one seriously injured in the disaster, said a spokesman with the Yiliang county government.

The landslide occurred at around 8:10 am on Thursday in the village of Zhenhe, Longhaixiang Township of the county, burying 19. It also blocked a river nearby, forming a barrier lake that is 15 metres wide and seven meters deep, said the spokesman.

The injured was receiving treatment at a temporary medical station, and it is not known yet whether the injury was life threatening or not. All the dead were students from the Shangba Primary School, according to the county’s education bureau. Three teaching buildings of the school were damaged in the earthquakes early September and demolished later, forcing over 30 students to have lessons at the nearby Tiantou Primary School.—Xinhua

Car bomb hits Iraqi security convoy, at least four killed

Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct— A car bomb struck a convoy of an Iraqi private security firm in Baghdad on Thursday, killing at least four people and wounding 11 others, a police source told Xinhua.

The attack occurred in the morning when a booby-trapped car went off near a convoy of sport utility vehicles (SUV) used by an Iraqi private security firm, in Baghdad’s western District of Mansour, the source said on condition of anonymity.

The powerful blast set ablaze one of the convoy’s SUVs and caused damages to several nearby cars and buildings, the source said. Violence and sporadic high profile attacks are still common in Iraqi cities despite a dramatic decrease of violence in general over the past few years.—Xinhua

US military supports FBI mission to investigate Benghazi consulate attack

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct — The US military has provided logistic and security support to an FBI team, which investigated an attack on the US consulate in the east Libyan City of Benghazi, the Pentagon said on Thursday.

The team visited Benghazi for several hours and departed there Thursday morning. “At the request of the FBI, the (Defence) Department provided logistic and security support to the investigation team in order to conduct work onsite in Benghazi,” Pentagon spokesman George Little told a news briefing.

“The activities of the investigation team and support provided by DOD (Department of Defence) were

fully coordinated with the State Department and the Libyan government,” Little said. Though declining to reveal details of the operation, Little said the military support included providing airlifting service for the FBI team during the mission.

The US government has been aggressively looking into precisely what happened on 11 Sept, when US Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other US diplomats were killed in the attack in Benghazi.

“We’ve been actively chasing leads in various ways,” Little said, adding that the US intelligence community, the State Department and FBI have been working to determine

what happened in the incident. The US government has determined that the attack was related to terrorism, after originally suspecting that it was triggered by a controversial anti-Islam film.

US media revealed that

classified US documents were still left on the site of the consulate which was badly damaged by the attack, but Little did not confirm nor deny that the FBI mission was to recover these sensitive materials.—Xinhua



An exterior view of the US consulate, which was attacked and set on fire by gunmen, in Benghazi on 12 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**Tech** **Google settles with publishers over digital books**

NEW YORK, 5 Oct—Google Inc (GOOG.O) and a group of publishers have agreed to a settlement over making digital copies of books, capping seven years of litigation involving the search giant's mission to become the world's library.

Google and the Association of American Publishers (AAP) said on Thursday that US publishers can choose to make available or choose to remove their books and journals digitized by Google for its Library Project.

Thursday's settlement does not affect Google's current litigation with the Authors Guild.

"Google continues to profit from its use of millions of copyright-protected books without regard to authors' rights, and our class-action lawsuit on behalf of US authors continues," Paul Aiken, executive director, Authors Guild said in a statement. The heart of the issue with the publishers involved Google scanning millions of copyrighted books making them available



An employee walks past the logo of Google in front of its former headquarters, in Beijing on 2 June, 2011.

REUTERS

to anyone. The publishers contend that Google violated copyright laws when it failed to seek their permission. "It shows that digital services can provide innovative means to discover content while still respecting the rights of copyright-holders," Tom Allen, AAP's president and chief executive officer, said in a statement.

The lawsuit was filed by AAP members McGraw-Hill Companies Inc (MHP.N), Pearson Education Inc (PERSON.L) and its sister Penguin Group USA, John Wiley & Sons and CBS Corp's (CBS.N) Simon & Schuster. Google has scanned roughly 15 million books in what it has said was an effort to provide easier access to

the world's knowledge. It is carrying out the scans in partnership with major libraries around the world, including the New York Public Library and Stanford University Libraries. Google Books allows users to browse up to 20 percent of the books in its library and then purchase digital versions through Google Play. The book industry has been reeling from a raft of challenges as more people use tablet devices like Amazon's (AMZN.O) Kindle and Apple's (AAPL.O) iPad to read books. Google was sued in 2005 by the Authors Guild and the Association of American Publishers for violating copyright laws, but reached an earlier settlement by agreeing to pay \$125 million to people whose copyrighted books have been scanned, and to locate and share revenue with the authors who have yet to come forward. But critics contended the settlement gave Google an unfair competitive advantage. A federal court agreed, and rejected the earlier settlement.

Reuters

Tech **Facebook crosses billion threshold, on quest for growth**

NEW YORK, 5 Oct—Facebook Inc (FB.O) passed the 1 billion user mark in September, a level of global penetration that is a remarkable achievement for an 8-year-old social network and a heightened challenge to its quest for sustained growth. Facebook, which has endured a bruising four months in the stock market since a haphazard 18 May initial public offering, has acknowledged that a slowdown in new-user acquisition is inevitable as its worldwide reach expands.

But doubts over whether the company can squeeze more and more dollars out of each network member—given well-publicized struggles to monetize the growing ranks of users who access Facebook from mobile devices—have shaved more than 40 percent off Facebook's value since its IPO, although shares still trade at a lofty 45 times projected 2012 earnings. Thursday's announcement that Facebook crossed the billion threshold on 14 September confirmed expectations on Wall Street that growth is actually trailing off. The latest quarter's growth appeared likely to come in lower in raw numbers, let alone by percentage, than the April-June quarter's 54 million new users. About 45 million



Librarian Josh Soule turns on computers in preparation to teach senior citizens how to set up and use a Facebook account during a class at a branch of the New York Public Library in New York on 13 August, 2012.—REUTERS

joined from the start of July, when it had 955 million users, through 14 September. And the previous quarter was way down from the 102 million who joined during the first three months of 2012.

In an interview on NBC's "Today" show broadcast on Thursday, CEO Mark Zuckerberg was asked by co-anchor Matt Lauer how, with a billion users, the company wasn't "killing it" by making money.

"It depends on your definition of 'killing it.' I mean, we are making billions of dollars," Zuckerberg fired back.

In its last earnings report, Facebook said revenue increased by 32 percent to \$1.18 billion in the second quarter.

But that marked the slowest pace of quarterly revenue growth since the first quarter of 2011—the earliest data available. Founded by Zuckerberg in a Harvard dorm in 2004, Facebook took three years to reach 50 million users. By 2010, that hit 500 million. But with Google Inc (GOOG.O) launching its own social network and other services from Twitter to YouTube vying for Web surfers' time, the social network is keen to keep rolling out new products to keep its members engaged.

"The key, of course, is monetization of those users," Hudson Square analyst Dan Ernst said.—Reuters

Science **NASA's infrared observatory measures expansion of Universe**

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct—Astronomers using NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope have announced the most precise measurement yet of the Hubble constant, or the rate at which our universe is stretching apart, US space agency NASA said on Wednesday.

The Hubble constant is named after astronomer Edwin P Hubble, who astonished the world in the 1920s by confirming our universe has been expanding since it exploded into being 13.7 billion years ago. In the late 1990s, astronomers discovered the expansion is accelerating, or speeding up over time. Determining the expansion rate is critical for understanding the age and size of the universe.

Unlike NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, which views the cosmos in visible light, Spitzer took advantage of long-wavelength infrared light to make its new measurement. It improves by a factor of three on a similar, seminal study from the Hubble telescope and brings the uncertainty down to 3 percent, a giant leap in accuracy for cosmological measurements. The newly refined value for the Hubble constant is 74.32.1 kilometers per second per megaparsec. A megaparsec is roughly 3 million light years.

The study appeared in the *Astrophysical Journal*.—Xinhua

Science **Japanese researchers successfully create ova from IPS stem cells**

OSAKA, 5 Oct—Japanese researchers have succeeded in creating ova from artificially derived multipurpose stem cells and using the ova to produce mice offspring through in vitro fertilization for the first time in the world, *Kyodo News* reported.

The achievement,

announced in the online edition of US magazine *Science* on Friday Japan time, was made by a team of researchers led by Kyoto University professor Michinori Saito.

Saito's group reported last year that it had successfully generated sperm

from induced pluripotent stem (IPS) cells.

The team cultivated IPS cells generated from fibroblasts of female mouse fetuses and generated cells close to a group of multipotent cells that can grow into any type of body tissue. By stimulating the pluripotent

cells, the researchers developed germ cells, the forerunners of sperms and eggs.

They then created ovaries by cultivating the germ cells and female gonadal somatic cells, which determine sex, in a test tube. About four weeks after transplanting the ovaries into female mice, the researchers obtained immature eggs and later matured them in vitro.

The group fertilized the eggs in vitro with normal sperm and placed them in female mice, which later gave birth to both male and female mice that were physically unimpaired. The researchers further produced offspring of the mice and normal mice.

Xinhua

Tech **AT&T to sell Nokia's latest Lumias, Samsung camera**

A Nokia executive shows the new Lumia 920 phone with Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system at a launch event in New York, on 5 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 5 Oct—AT&T Inc will start selling Nokia's two latest Lumia smartphones in November, making it the first carrier to commit to the devices in the United States. AT&T said on Thursday that both models—the Lumia 920 and 820—will run on its

fastest network starting in November. It also said it would sell a Samsung Electronics Co camera with a wireless connection.

Nokia's introduction of the latest Lumia's last month was met with disappointment because of a lack of details including carrier

partners, launch dates, prices for the smartphones powered by Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system.

Struggling Finnish handset maker Nokia announced earlier it would start selling the smartphones in Europe in November with specific price points.

The launch of the Lumia is critical to survival of the Finnish company. Once the world's biggest mobile phone maker, Nokia fell behind rivals in smartphones and has racked up more than 3 billion euros in operating losses in the last 18 months.

The Samsung Galaxy camera will let users of the device connect to the AT&T cellular network to share photographs and video without having to connect the camera to a computer. The No 2 US mobile provider did not unveil pricing for either device.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Health Gum disease linked to psoriasis: study

NEW YORK, 5 Oct—People with chronic gum disease seem to be slightly more likely to develop the skin condition psoriasis, according to a new study.

Chinese (Taipei) researchers found that in a group of more than 230,000 people, those with gum disease were 54 percent more likely to get psoriasis over five years.

The study is among the first to investigate the link between the two conditions and doesn't necessarily mean gum disease can cause psoriasis.

"We don't know very much about what the risk factors are for chronic inflammatory diseases like psoriasis," said Dr Joel Gelfand, a dermatologist at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, who was not involved in the new research.

"This study points in a potentially new direction for a potential risk factor that—in theory—could be modified and thus lower the risk of psoriasis in the future," he told *Reuters Health*. "That being said, this finding needs to be confirmed by more-rigorous, more-controlled studies to determine if the findings are real."

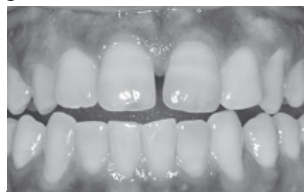
Psoriasis is thought to be caused by a mistaken immune reaction directed at the body's own cells, leading to inflamed patches of red, scaly skin.

It's not the first time the condition has been linked to other health problems. Earlier this year, a study of people evaluated for heart disease found 84 percent of patients with psoriasis had coronary artery disease, compared to 75 percent of patients without the skin condition.

Oral health has also been tied to other conditions, with two studies from this year finding links to heart disease and dementia.

But until now only one other study had looked at the link between psoriasis and chronic periodontitis, the advanced stage of the gum disease gingivitis.

For the new research, published in the *British*



Diabetes can reduce the body's resistance to infection. Elevated blood sugars increase the risk of developing gum disease. What's more, gum disease can make it harder to keep blood sugar levels in check. Protect your gums by keeping blood sugar levels as close to normal as possible. Brush after each meal and floss daily. See your dentist at least once a year.—REUTERS

Journal of Dermatology, Dr Joseph J Keller from Taipei Medical University and his colleague turned to a database of Taipei's national health system.

They identified 115,365 people with gum disease, and then selected the same number of people without the condition. The researchers then looked through the database to see how many people in each group developed gum disease over the next five years.

In the group with gum disease, 1,082 developed psoriasis, while 706 did in the comparison group. That works out to about 1.9 in 1,000 people versus 1.2 in 1,000, respectively.

According to the researchers, their findings may challenge some of what is known about psoriasis's underlying cause, but they caution their study has some limitations.

Specifically, they were not able to account for certain factors that could have played a role, such as cigarette smoking. And until the findings are confirmed, Gelfand said, people with gum disease should not be alarmed.—*Reuters*

China's geothermal resources equal to 860 trillion tonnes of coal equivalent

BEIJING, 5 Oct—China's geothermal energy resources amount to 860 trillion tonnes of coal equivalent, an amount 260,000 times greater than China's annual energy consumption, according to newly issued statistics from the Ministry of Land and Resources.

The figure is based on a new evaluation of geothermal energy resources buried 3,000 to 10,000 meters below 287 cities, 12 sedimentary basins and 2,562 hot springs.

The ministry said the

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 1 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS



NEW YORK, 5 Oct—The S&P 500 extended gains to a fourth day on Thursday, putting it on the cusp of a new five-year high if Friday's jobs report shows encouraging signs for the labour market.

The rally was broad, with all 10 S&P 500 sectors up and financials in the lead. The S&P's financial index (.GSPF) gained 1.5 percent.

In the tech arena, Google Inc (GOOG.O) shares hit a new 52-week high of \$769.89 earlier in the session. The stock ended up 0.7 percent at \$768.05.

"We would expect that the market is going to break significantly in one direction or another on payrolls," said

S&P 500 on verge of 5-year high day ahead of jobs data

Business

President Barack Obama on Wednesday night.

Shares of Arch Coal (ACLN) rose 7.9 percent to \$6.69 and shares of Alpha Natural Resources (ANR.N) gained 6.8 percent to \$6.73.

Data showed US retailers' September sales looked solid as shoppers wrapped up back-to-school buying and put the brakes on more big spending before the holiday season.

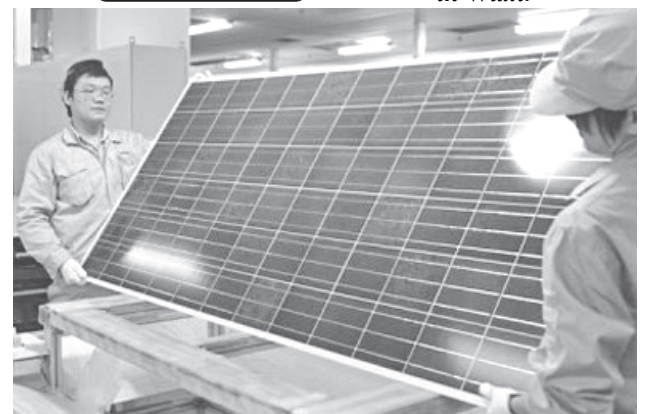
Costco Wholesale (COST.O) shares rose 1.9 percent to \$101.48 after it reported a better-than-expected 6 percent rise in September sales at stores open at least a year.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits rose 4,000 to a seasonally adjusted 367,000, the Labour Department said, below economists' expectations for an increase to 370,000.

About 6.1 billion shares changed hands on the New York Stock Exchange, Amex and Nasdaq, compared with the average daily volume of 6.38 billion.—*Reuters*

Energy Workers assembling solar panels by hand at a factory in Wuxi.

Business



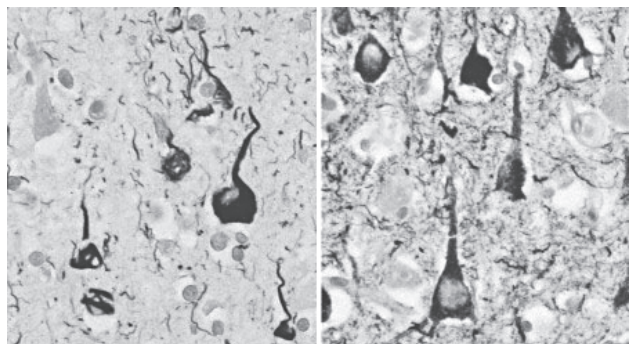
standard coal, according to the ministry.

Geothermal energy resources are abundant in

China, although the country's ability to develop and utilize them is still in its infancy.—*Xinhua*

Cat brains found with protein peculiar to Alzheimer's disease: study

Health



Supplied combined photos shows microscopic images of nerve cells from the brain of a Tsushima leopard cat, that died of an undetermined cause (R), and of a human patient with Alzheimer's disease (L). The areas stained black show cells with accumulation of unusual protein.

TOKYO, 5 Oct—The brains of Tsushima leopard cats, which live exclusively on a western Japan island, contained protein deposits similar to those found in the brains of humans with Alzheimer's disease, according to a study published in the US science journal *Plos One*.

The finding in relation to the wild cats on Tsushima, Nagasaki Prefecture, is the first case in which such deposits have been confirmed among animals, according to the team led by James Chambers, an assistant professor of veterinary pathology at the University of Tokyo.

"The phenomenon may be prevalent among animals in the feline group," Chambers said. He said the team wants to conduct a similar study on house cats as well.—*Kyodo*

British central bank keeps 0.5 pct interest rate, QE size unchanged

LONDON, 5 Oct—Bank of England, Britain's central bank, has decided to keep the benchmark interest rate at the historical low of 0.5 percent and held off from more quantitative easing (QE) programmes.

The low interest rate has been kept for over three years by the Monetary Policy Committee under the central bank, while total QE size now stands at 375 billion pounds after a 50-billion-pound expansion was last made in July. Britain has been in recession for the last three



Bank Of England

Health

quarters, while there is now expectation that the economy could return to growth in the third quarter this year.

The central bank's latest prediction was the economy could barely grow this year and the OECD last month cut its forecast on Britain's economy to a 0.7-percent contraction from a former forecast of 0.5-percent growth. Some analysts expect the central bank to expand QE size next month amid the dim economic outlook.

Xinhua

WORLD

Venezuela's Chavez fights young rival in re-election bid

Venezuela

CARACAS, 5 Oct— Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez faces the toughest election of his 14-year rule on Sunday in a vote pitting his charisma and oil-financed largesse against fresh-faced challenger Henrique Capriles' promise of jobs, safer streets and an end to cronyism.

Chavez, 58, staged a remarkable comeback from

cancer this year and wants a new six-year term to consolidate his self-styled socialist revolution in the OPEC nation.

Capriles, a boyish 40-year-old state governor, has run a marathon eight-month campaign of house-by-house visits that have galvanized the historically fractured opposition and set up its best

shot at the presidency since Chavez's election in 1998.

Defeat for Chavez would defenestrate Latin America's leader of anti-US sentiment while potentially boosting oil companies' access to the world's largest crude reserves. Victory would allow Chavez to continue a wave of nationalizations and consolidate control over the economy, though a recurrence of his cancer would weaken his leadership and possibly give the opposition another chance.

In torrential rain, red-shirted supporters of the president filled much of downtown Caracas on Thursday for his final rally.

"Chavez will not fail the Venezuelan people," the president said, soaked to the skin in a dark raincoat, on a stage before a sea of fans. "You know that my loyalty to the people almost brought me to the point of death. This is my path." —Reuters



Venezuela's President and presidential candidate Hugo Chavez is greeted by supporters under the rain during his closing campaign rally in Caracas on 4 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

Nuclear operators must act now on safety

EU

BRUSSELS, 5 Oct— Regulators and operators should act now to improve safety at nuclear power plants, the EU energy commissioner said on Thursday, following inspections across the European Union.

The stress tests, carried out in the aftermath of the Fukushima disaster, found safety improvements costing between 10 billion (\$12.90 billion) and 25 billion euros were necessary in European plants, a draft seen by Reuters showed this week.

"Nearly everywhere there is major potential for improvement," Energy Commission Guenther Oettinger told reporters.

"We therefore think that we should talk together with

operators and regulatory authorities to act rapidly so that the highest possible standards can be guaranteed very soon."

One of the lessons of Fukushima was that two natural disasters could strike at the same time and knock out the electrical supply system of a plant completely, so it could not be cooled down. The stress tests sought to avert any repeat of that series of events by establishing whether nuclear plants can withstand natural disasters, aircraft crashes and management failures, as well as whether adequate systems are in place to deal with power disruptions.

Among the findings were that on-site seismic

instruments should be installed or improved in 121 reactors.

In addition, 24 reactors did not have a back-up



European Energy Commissioner Gunther Oettinger speaks at a news conference on the EU Nuclear Stress Tests in Brussels on 4 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

emergency room in case the main control room became uninhabitable.

Because EU authorities do not have power to

determine the energy mix of member states, the stress tests were voluntary, but Oettinger said they would not just be "put in a drawer".—Reuters

Mediterranean summit excellent opportunity for exchange of views: Maltese FM

VALLETTE, 5 Oct— The "Five plus Five Dialogue" summit to be held in Malta from 5 to 6 Oct provides an excellent opportunity for exchanging views between the northern and southern rims of the Mediterranean, Maltese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tonio Borg said on Thursday.

The second edition of this meeting will bring leaders from France, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Malta face-to-face with their counterparts from Mauritania, Tunisia, Libya, Algeria and Morocco. The first such summit was held in Tunis in December 2003. "The summit will afford greater impetus to promote discussion among the 10 partner countries on thematic and institutional issues," Borg said in a recent interview. He added a declaration would be signed by the leaders based on the outcome of the Ninth Foreign Ministers meeting held in Rome on 20 Feb this year. Borg also said the Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) played a very important role to play "in the regional political dynamics of the Mediterranean."

Xinhua

NZ still counting cost of shipping disaster one year on

New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 5 Oct— New Zealand marked the first anniversary of its worst ever maritime environmental disaster on Friday, with the government renewing a pledge to restore the area affected by the oil spill from the Liberian-registered container ship Rena.

Environment Minister Amy Adams paid tribute to the hard work and collegiality of local councils, iwi (Maori tribal groups), businesses and the thousands of volunteers who came together to help minimise the impact of the grounding and resulting oil

spill off the east coast of the North Island.

"Situations like this can bring out the best in people, and so it has been the case here. The work is far from finished, however, and our goal now is to restore the Bay of Plenty environment back to its pre-Rena state," Adams said in a statement.

An environmental recovery plan to address the long-term effects of the grounding had made good progress, she said.

The plan identified the environmental issues for the beaches, seabed, water,

fisheries, wildlife and management of waste and set out who was responsible for the recovery and monitoring of each.

A governance group had been established to oversee the implementation of the plan and to make sure everything possible could be done to restore the environment.

Several scientific monitoring projects were also underway to get a better understanding of the environmental impacts of the Rena grounding.

Xinhua



World Bank president Jim Yong Kim speaks during a news conference at Felix Houphouet Boigny international airport in Abidjan, on 5 Sept, 2012. REUTERS

World Bank chief Kim signals changes to come

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct— The head of the World Bank said on Thursday he is preparing broad reforms at the development lender to make it more effective in ending global poverty and will discuss the changes with member countries at meetings in Tokyo next week.

The annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank from 11-14 October in Japan will be the first opportunity for Jim Yong Kim to put his mark on the institution since becoming president in July. "We're not ready to ask

for specific changes yet... but if we are going to be really serious about ending poverty earlier than currently projected... there are going to have to be some changes in the way we run the institution," Kim told reporters.

He said he wants the poverty-fighting institution to be less focused on pushing development loans out of the door and more on making a difference on the ground.

"Specifically, I am going to ask the governors to work with us so the organization can move to a model where

we move more quickly, we can make mid-course corrections more easily and where our board and our governors focus much more on holding us accountable for results on the ground in countries, rather than focusing so much on approval of large loans," he added.

Kim said he would be more specific about reforms at the next meetings of member countries in April. "The need for these changes have been clear for a very long time," he added.

Reuters

Consensus in Pakistan for strong Russia ties, says PM Ashraf

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 5 Oct — Pakistani Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf Thursday told visiting Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov that there is consensus in Pakistan that relations with Russia should be further strengthened.

"Russia is very important because of its linkages with Europe and Asia," the Prime Minister said in meeting with the Russian Foreign Minister in Islamabad.

The Prime Minister said that Pakistan and Russia have convergence on many regional and international issues including Afg-

hanistan, Syria and the Security Council as well as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the PM office said.

Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf said that Pakistan seeks to increase economic relations and to benefit from the expertise of Russia, especially in the energy sector where Russia has experience in mining coal and generation of coal power plants.

The Prime Minister expressed the hope that progress will also be made for cooperation between the two countries for improvement of railways in Pakistan.

He assured the Russian Foreign Minister that his government would extend all possible assistance to Russia in securing contracts in Pakistan and their execution.

The Prime Minister expressed the hope that both countries would exchange parliamentary, business and cultural delegations to further strengthen the relations. In this connection he referred to the visit of Speaker of National Assembly Ms Fehmida Mirza to Russia early next year.

The Russian Foreign Minister conveyed the best wishes of President Vladimir Putin for President Asif Ali Zardari.

Xinhua

NATIONAL

Drug eradication plan extended for five years

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—“The State, taking drug eradication as a national duty, has been implementing plans to fight against drug from various aspects and improve living standard of national races. The two strategies have been carried out in accordance with three tactics, namely, supply eradication, demand eradication and law enforcement, in three phases over 15 years from April 1999 to March 2014 and the plan now has reached the third year of third 5-year plan. The plan will be extended five years to 2018-2019 to maintain the momentum of the war on drug,” said Chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko as he addressed the meeting 2/2012 of the central committee at the ministry here this afternoon.

The Union Minister called for realizing the objective of “ASEAN Drug Free Zone” within ASEAN countries by 2015. The committee is taking a leading role in fighting against drug increasing cooperation with local people, private sector and strengthening coordination with UN agencies. He stressed the need for educative activities at schools, public education and drug prevention programmes, effective implementation of family-, school-, workplace- and community-based anti-drug campaigns and drug abuse control programmes to constantly and significantly reduce drug abuse. The work groups concerned of the central committee are providing rehabilitation health care to former drug addicts to enable them take part in society and private



Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control holds meeting 2/2012. MNA

works. He called for utmost collaborative efforts of all the groups over the coming two years as Myanmar would take over ASEAN Chair along with the responsibility for drug eradication.

Next, Secretary of the central committee Deputy Minister Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun explained progress in putting resolutions of central committee meeting

1/2012 into practice.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay, leader of legal adviser team to the President U Sit Aye, invited guests from Ministry of Defence, personnel of the central committee, and personnel of UNODC, DEA, ONCB and AFP.

MNA

MoU on implementation of gas-fired combined cycle power plant project (Thaketa) inked



NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—A ceremony to sign MoU on implementation of gas-fired combined cycle power plant project (Thaketa) in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region between Department of Electric Power and Korean companies—Busan Korea Biotechnology Co., Ltd, Korea Western Power Co., Ltd, Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd and Hana Daetoo Securities Co., Ltd through BOT system, took place here yesterday evening.

It was attended by Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint, Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials from those companies.

In his speech, Union

Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe said that since the time of the then government, Korean BKB company firstly submitted the proposal to make investment in construction of gas turbine in Yangon. After the new government comes into power, MoU on its feasibility study has been signed on 21 December, 2011.

Only when the necessary agreements would be implemented as quickly as possible, will electric power demand in summer of 2014 be met. The project aims to distribute electric power to Thilawa industrial zone and links to power network. The power supply is to mainly focus on avoiding environmental damages.

President and CEO Mr Kim Moon Duk of Korea Western Power Co., Ltd

explained (500 MW) CCGP project. And President & CEO Mr Chung Si Woo of Busan Korea Biotechnology Co., Ltd spoke words of thanks.

Director-General U Khin Maung Zaw of Department of Electric Power and President and CEO Mr Kim Moon Duk signed the MoU.

MNA

40000 stimulant tablets seized in Nawngkhio

NAWNGKHIO, 5 Oct—While discharging duty of anti-drug tasks at mile post 78/5 at the entrance to Nawngkhio on 30 September afternoon, a combined team led by IP Aung Thin of Lashio Anti-Drug Special Squad and IP Soe Lwin of Nawngkhio Police Station together with witnesses searched the express bus driven by U Aung Myint that left Muse for Mandalay.

They seized an MLK from Plateau milk bottle and 40000 WY brand pink stimulant tablets without owner from the shelf of seat No 9-10.

Nawngkhio Police Station is exposing the drug trafficker.—Myanma Alin

Plan underway to hold Myanmar Hospitality and Tourism Conference 2013

A ceremony to sign the MoU to hold the Myanmar Hospitality and Tourism Conference 2013, to be jointly organized by Myanmar Tourism Federation and Sphere Conferences of Singapore, was held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda, here, on 2 October.

The conference is aimed at for tourism entrepreneurs, hoteliers and investors. It will focus on investment opportunities of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services.

Chairman of Sphere Conference Mr Chua Wee Phong expressed his satisfaction for opportunity to cooperate with Myanmar Tourism Federation and pledged to provide expertise and financial services of Singapore to Myanmar.

He said that foreign investors are especially interested in hotels and tourism industries of Myanmar and wishes to cooperate with Myanmar hotels and tourism agencies.

Chairman of Myanmar industrial and other Tourism Federation U Yan Win and Mr Chua signed Myanmar in the near future.—Kyemon

Sphere Conference arranges to hold banking,

District News

US\$ 3 million to be provided to SEA Games

YANGON, 5 Oct—A China-based communication company kept a promise to provide US\$ 3 million to implement the video conference system in the 2013 SEA Games to be organized in Nay Pyi Taw.

An official of the company said, “We will take responsibility of technology. We coordinate with Myanma Posts and Telecommunications on detail matters.

Before the SEA Games, the video conferencing system will be applied. At present, we plan to give US\$ 3 million to the games.” Huawei Co is not plan to jointly conduct the MPT as telephone operator.

In the Myanmar mobile phone field, Huawei brand handset is a favourite among the mobile phone users for both GSM and CDMA.—Myanma Alin



U Win Khaing (Deputy Director) and U Nanda Nay Lin (Assistant Director) from Union Election Commission being seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials before departure for India to attend Election Management; Principles and Practices.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 6 October, 2012

A new political culture

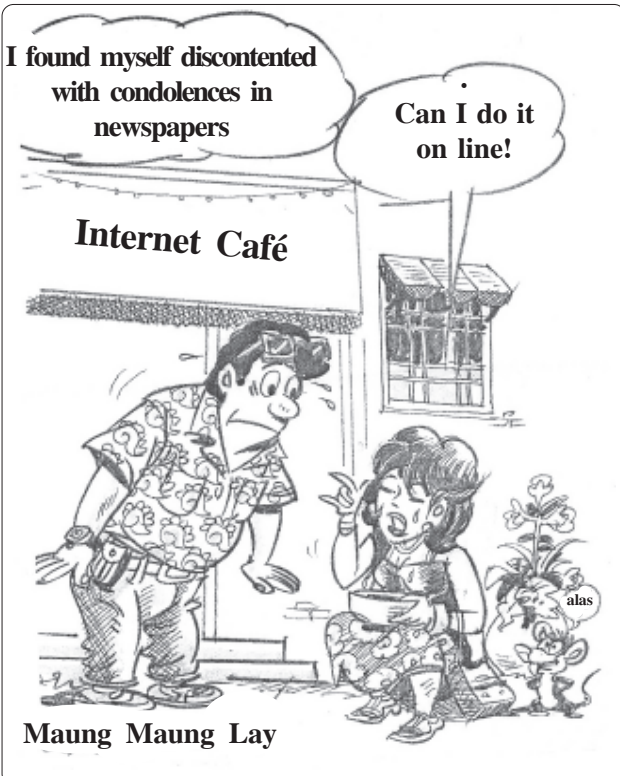
Myanmar now is at the threshold of a new dynamic age. As it is a country among the countries of the world, it too has the duty to fulfill the goals of the United Nations.

Unlike many other nations, our democratic transition process will be rather difficult and in some parts fragile, and calls for tolerance and unity among our people. Moreover, the process also requires understanding and support of the international community and the international organizations including the UN apart from our own people. It is time some global nations and institutions should change their view on Myanmar and start seeking wider common ground with her. As for us, it is time to demonstrate our favorable environment involving business, trade and other important issues.

Moreover, we must face the challenges of the age with valor and unyielding spirit as a country ever preserving her dignity and image.

The legislative body has adopted landmark laws through the democratic principles at present. And in enacting every law and bylaw there is also consideration for bridging the rich-poor divide, protecting every citizen's rights, conserving the natural environment, and ensuring workers rights as per the international standard. Besides, the nation focuses on ensuring transparency and impartiality in inviting foreign investments, especially in the energy sector.

At the current stage of the political process, we can witness the emergence of democratic characteristics such as increasing of participation from different political forces and their mutual tolerance, the magnanimity, expansion of the scope of political participation of any representation and the accountability. Our government and other stakeholders have now been able to foster a new political culture of patience and dialogue.



Maung Maung Lay

OPINION

Teachers on their parts to try...

(from page 1)

of those mottos into Myanmar can be known that they defines honours to teachers, but some forces teachers to do their best. Examples were the motto "Shaping tomorrows world- the role of the teacher" for 1997 and another "Teachers as peace builders shape the future" for 1998.

The motto in 1999 was "Teachers-a force for social change"; in 2003, "teachers-Opening doors to a better world"; in 2008, "Teachers matter"; and in 2010, "Recovery begins with teachers".

Taking look at the translation, the mottos honour and urge the teachers. So, the motto for World Teachers' Day (2012) is "Take a stand for teachers" and hours the teachers in line with UN's main goal.

School-children entertain the audience with song at ceremony to mark 2012 World Teachers' Day.

MNA



Myanmar has been holding World Teachers' Day ceremonies annually. And this is 11th year. World Teachers' Day is marked since the meeting between UNESCO and ILO submitted to promote socio-economic status of teachers. There still needs a lot to fulfill the socio-economic status of teachers.

Myanmar needs to provide social and economic assistance to the teachers in higher education sector and basic education sector. The State has provided cash assistance to them based on State's funds. Efforts are to be made for providing more assistance to them.

In addition, with regard to the promotion of basic

Myanmar beat Brunei 1-0 in AFF Suzuki Cup 2012 Qualifier

YANGON, 5 Oct—Under the guidance of Myanmar National Sports Committee, the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Football Federation jointly-organized AFF Suzuki Cup 2012 Qualifier Football Tournament with the aim of promoting Myanmar sport standard. The first day matches were held at Youth Training Camp in Thingangyun Township here this evening, attended by Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan and President of Brunei National Olympic Council HRH Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah.

Present at the ceremony were Patron of MFF U Aung Ko Win, MFF President U Zaw Zaw and officials, responsible personnel of foreign embassies in Myanmar, presidents of

MNL clubs, officials from AFF, managers, coaches and players of respective countries.

Footballers from host Myanmar and Brunei took position in the pitch to compete as second match according to agenda. They were greeted by Union Minister U Tint Hsan, President of BNOC HRH Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, Patron of MFF U Aung Ko Win, MFF President U Zaw Zaw and Yadanarbon Football Club owner Dr Sai San Tun.

Before starting the match, players from both teams took salute of respective national anthems and national flags. Then host Myanmar and Brunei played the second match and Myanmar beat Brunei 1-0 in the debut.

Cambodia was trounced by Timor Leste 5-1 in the first match.—MNA

education teachers,

- (a) school heads of middle schools are promoted to grade-four level as officers
- (b) School heads of basic primary schools (grade-two level) are promoted to senior assistant teachers
- (c) About 60,000 experienced teachers among primary assistant teachers are promoted to junior assistant teachers.

To promote the education management, such measures as

- (a) Upgrade of region/state education officer offices to directorate of education
- (b) Extended formation of district education officer offices.
- (c) Upgrade of township education officer offices, were taken.

World Teachers' Day symbolizes the review of

teachers' socio-economic status and seeking the ways to promote the standards of teachers and education staff.

The teachers on their part are to try to become a qualified one and keep five teacher ethics. Not only teachers but also students are to keep the fine traditions of Myanmar.

He expressed the special thanks to teachers across the country on State's behalf. The teachers play a crucial role in education sector. He added that the time has come to explore ways to promote socio-economic status of teachers as there is no substitute in the place of teachers. The State on its part is making efforts. He also urged entrepreneurs and all people including students and parents to extend a helping hand.

After that, officials read out the messages sent by the heads of five UN agencies and social and educational undertakings of honorable teachers and one outstanding teacher.

The Union Minister and the deputy ministers presented awards to the honorable teachers and one outstanding teacher the winners at article and essay competitions and poem contest.

After the ceremony, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party viewed the booths. The World countries have started holding the World Teachers' Day since 1994. Myanmar has been holding it since 2002.—MNA



Ko Sithu from Naungyoe Street, Bayinnaung Brokerage in Mayangon Tsp, Yangon to mark his 29th birthday donated K 300,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Vice-Chairman of the home for the aged U Aung Than accepts the donation.—NLM

NATIONAL NEWS & OPINION

Myanmar joins Asia-Europe...

(from page 16)

international parliaments especially with those from Asian and European countries. He expressed his pride and delight on behalf of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the profound historic decision of ASEP Chairman and member countries and delegations to accept Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of Myanmar as a member. He requested the international support for the role of parliament, the manifesto of democracy, elaborating on the role of Hluttaws, actions for capacity building of MPs and parliamentary functions in Myanmar.

The Speaker stressed his support for sustainable development of Asia-Europe cooperation, the objective of ASEP-7. He as a legislator and people's representative expressed his belief about exchange of views and suggestions from the meeting to contribute to legislative sector.

Next, leaders of respective delegations delivered speeches at the first plenary meeting and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of Myanmar was accepted as a permanent member of ASEP together with parliaments of Australia, New Zealand, and Russian Federation.

Speaker U Khin Aung Myint paid a call on President of Lao PDR Mr Choummaly Sayesone together with leaders of other delegations at Presidential Palace on 3 October evening and attended the dinner hosted by President of Laotian National Assembly Mrs Pany Yathotou at Don Chan Palace Hotel.

The Myanmar parliamentary delegation attended the



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint delivers an address at 7th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP-7) in Vientiane of Laos.

MNA

economic group meeting, social and environmental affairs group meeting and drafting committee meeting, second day plenary meeting and concluding of ASEP-7 and the dinner hosted by Deputy Prime Minister of Lao PDR Dr Thongloun Sisoulith at International Cooperation and

Training Centre (ICTC) on 4 October.

The delegation left Vientiane on 5 October evening and were seen off at Vientiane International Airport by personnel of Laotian National Assembly, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos, Military Attaché and officials.—MNA

Perspective on forthcoming...

(from page 16)

that can run on its own funds step by step at a time when the State-owned newspapers are transformed into public service media. In that regard, there would be differences among the countries. At the final step, the government or Ministry of Information would not get involved directly in it. And then the financial independence will be given to them.

In addition, governing body's duties are that they are to draft and prescribe necessary policies and work programme at a time when the State-owned newspapers are transformed into the public service media. As I mentioned earlier, they are to implement fundamental principles of PSM. To have impartiality and independence, print media needs to have financial freedom.

MNA: May I know how to deal with the accountability of PSM?

Dr. TT: The governing body comprising those with wide experience and expertise in their respective fields of work will govern the PSM freely. That body is to lay down newspaper's policies, editors' policies, press procedures for reporters and editors, financial policies and aims and objectives and duties when the State-owned newspapers are transformed into public service media. In addition, the governing body is to monitor and assess the undertakings of executive board and editorial board continuously and to designate necessary qualifications and standards for the chief editors and the editors. Executive body has a duty to help them to have freedom of management within the framework of the governing body and enable the chief editors and editorial board to exercise their editorial independence.

IPRD

Deputy

Director-

General

Dr. Thida

Tin shares

her PSM

knowledge

with

Myanmar

News

Agency.



MNA: Is there another important point in PSM transform?

Dr. TT: It is of special importance for thorough understanding of PSM and the said basic principles by the people and all those from three estates of the state. PSM does not represent a government (or) a party (or) a group. It is just the fourth estate that only serves public interests without taking side. Only then, there would be smooth transformation into PSM.

Chairman of UCSB attends 16th ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of the Union Civil Services Board U Kyaw Thu attended the 16th ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters, Heads of Civil Service Meeting and First ASEAN Plus Three Heads of Civil Service Meeting in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 2 to 4 October.

During the meetings, the Heads of ASEAN Civil Service Organizations, ASEAN Plus Three Heads of Civil Service and Representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat discussed matters relating to the implementation of ACCSM plus Three work plan (2012-2015), proposed nine pilot projects and other potential areas of civil service cooperation. Myanmar delegation also

attended the "Forum on Good Governance."

At the meeting, Myanmar, as the current Co-chair, presented arrangements on the preparations for the 17th ACCSM and related meetings to be hosted in Myanmar during its chairmanship in 2013 and 2014. The ACCSM Meetings are alternately chaired by ASEAN Member States biennial according to the alphabetical order.

Together with the Chairman of the UCSB, members of the Myanmar delegation, Director-General U Wai Myint and Director U Zaw Moe Win of the Civil Service Selection and Training Department also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

Free health care services provided

PATHEIN, 5 Oct—Myanmar Medical Association (Pathein) provided free health care services to the aged from Pathein at the MMA (Pathein) on 30 September.

Under the supervision of Chairman of MMA (Pathein) Orthopaedic specialist Dr U Kyi Pe and General Secretary physician Dr Daw Thida Yi, specialists, house surgeons and nurses gave free medical treatment to 200 older persons of Pathein.

They transferred the older persons who need to be provided further medical treatment to Pathein General Hospital.

Red Cross battalion, Myittayeik Health Care Service Association and Karuna Social Service Association of Pathein also volunteered the free health care services.

Kyemon

News in Brief

Winners awarded in performing arts competition

Chief Minister of Kayin State U Zaw Min formally opened the 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition at Zwegabin Hall of Hpa-an on 20 September and prize presentation ceremony at the same venue on 22 September.

Older Persons Day observed

The International Day of Older Persons 2012 was observed at the city hall in Mandalay on 1 October morning. Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and wife and officials donated cash to 31 older persons of above 95 years.

Abhidhamma and Visuddhimagga exam 10-12 Dec

Religious Affairs Department will hold the Abhidhamma and Visuddhimagga examination from 10 to 12 December at the designated examination centres. Applications may be taken out from township General Administration Departments.

Development of agriculture discussed

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint explained development of agricultural sector in meeting with national race farmers from Hsihseng Township, at Alyinlo Village of Pinyin Township on 3 October morning.

WORLD

Obama fights back after debate setback

US President Barack Obama waves to a crowd as he arrives for a campaign rally in Madison, Wisconsin on 4 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

DENVER, 5 Oct—A day after a muted performance in a presidential debate, President Barack Obama fought back against Republican rival Mitt Romney on Thursday and the Democrat's re-election campaign vowed to learn lessons from the setback. A feisty Obama told a rally of some 12,000 people that the former Massachusetts

governor was untruthful during Wednesday's 90-minute debate in Denver, which most observers reckoned the Republican won.

"When I got onto the stage, I met this very spirited fellow who claimed to be Mitt Romney," Obama said.

"But it couldn't have been Mitt Romney, because

the real Mitt Romney has been running around the country for the last year promising \$5 trillion in tax cuts that favour the wealthy. The fellow on stage last night said he didn't know anything about that." Often criticized for being wooden, Romney's aggressive debate performance gave his campaign a burst of energy after weeks of setbacks.

Looking at times tired and displeased, Obama did not seize opportunities to attack the Republican on his business record at Bain Capital, the "47 percent" video and his refusal to release more income tax returns.

All this unfolded before a national television audience of 67.2 million, according to television ratings firm Nielsen, up 28 percent compared with the first presidential debate in 2008 between Obama and

Republican Senator John McCain. With two more presidential debates before the 6 November election, senior aide David Axelrod said the Obama campaign would adjust its strategy as a result of the debate.

"We are going to take a hard look at this and we are going to have to make some adjustments as to where to draw the lines in these debates and how to use our time," he told reporters. Democratic sources said Obama raised more than \$100 million in September in another sign of his financial strength going into the last month of the campaign.

Romney prepared for the Denver encounter with days of mock debates and was more ready to go on the offensive against Obama in detailed discussion on taxes, jobs, energy and the budget deficit.—Reuters

Turks on Syrian border**skeptical after shelling Turkey**

AKCAKALE, 5 Oct—Frightened residents of a Turkish border town shelled by Syria expressed skepticism on Friday that military and political retaliation by Ankara would succeed in deterring more deadly strikes by Damascus forces.

Turkish artillery bombarded Syrian military targets for a second day on Thursday, responding to the mortar fire that killed five people the day before in the southeastern town of Akcakale. The salvos killed several Syrian soldiers, and Turkey's parliament stepped up pressure on the political front by authorizing cross-border military action in the event of further aggression.

In New York, the UN Security Council on Thursday strongly condemned the mortar attack by Syria and demanded that "such violations of international law stop immediately and are not repeated." Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan said Ankara would never want to start a war and the parliamentary vote was merely a deterrent, but people in the region remained fearful.

"We are stuck in the middle," said 33-year-old security guard Ibrahim Cilden in Akcakale. "If we're going to go to war, let's go to war, but right now we're sitting here like targets." His house was a few doors from the one hit on Wednesday in the south of Akcakale by the border fence. The area is like a ghost town, bearing the scars of Syrian shells, mortar bombs and bullets that have strayed across the border in recent weeks.—Reuters



Turkish soldiers stand guard on the Turkish-Syrian border near the Akcakale border crossing, southern Sanliurfa Province, on 4 October, 2012.—REUTERS

Australia to commit funds for P-8A aircraft

CANBERRA, 5 Oct—Australia has signed a new agreement of the 73.9 million AU dollars (about 75.56 million US dollars) Increment 3 Project Arrangement with the US Navy for the P-8A aircraft, Defence Minister Stephen Smith and Minister for Defence Material Jason Clare announced on Friday.

According to a statement from the

Department of Defence, the signing formalises Australia's participation in the development of *Increment 3 P-8A Aircraft* and marks Australia's continued commitment to the 5 billion AU dollars project to acquire a further manned Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

The P-8A, the replacement of the AP-3C

Orion maritime patrol aircraft, is a fundamental element of Australia's future maritime patrol and response strategy in replacing the current AP-3C *Orion* fleet, due for withdrawal around 2019.

The P-8A is a modern, highly reliable aircraft based on the commercially-proven *Boeing B737*, modified to incorporate the latest

maritime surveillance and attack capabilities. It has an unrefueled range of over 4,000 nautical miles (7,500km) or the ability to remain on station conducting low level Anti Submarine Warfare (ASW) missions for over four hours at a range of more than 1,200 nautical miles (2,200km) from base.

Xinhua

Americans have mixed feelings about healthcare

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct—It's no secret that 2010's Affordable Care Act is unpopular—except when it's not. *Reuters/Ipsos* polling reveals a remarkably high level of approval for nearly all the provisions of the act, often in the 80 percent range, even though respondents oppose the legislation, commonly known as "Obamacare," by 55 to 45. Remarks made during the 3 October presidential debate added confusion rather than clarity to the healthcare issue.

Polled in midsummer, shortly after the Supreme Court upheld most of the ACA law, almost two-thirds of respondents favoured allowing those under the age of 26 to keep their parents' coverage. Eighty-two percent supported a ban on denying coverage because of preexisting conditions, and 86 percent agreed companies should not be allowed to cancel policies when the owners become ill.

Similarly, 80 percent favoured the creation of insurance pools and a ban on the lifetime healthcare cost cap. Almost 70 percent

supported regulating private insurance companies to make sure they offer comparable coverage.

Despite Republican grumbling about how the changes could harm

businesses and the economy, almost three-quarters of respondents favoured requiring companies with 50 or more employees to provide coverage. All these provisions are part of ACA,

although some of them do not take effect until 2014.

How such popular measures became the Achilles' heel of the Obama administration—only 21 percent strongly approved of the president's handling of healthcare in a September poll, while 34 percent strongly disapproved—can be traced to a single term: "the individual mandate."

The requirement that all citizens obtain healthcare coverage was opposed by 59 percent of respondents in the summer poll and has been lambasted by critics as a step toward "socialized medicine" and a "welfare state."

Reuters



Beds lie empty in the emergency room of Tulane University Hospital in New Orleans on 14 Feb, 2006.—REUTERS

Cuba Cuban drug seizures in first half of 2012 highest in 8 years

HAVANA, 5 Oct—Cuba seized 1.644 tons of drugs in the first half of 2012, registering the largest amount of drugs netted over a six-month period in the past eight years, an Interior Ministry official said on Thursday. Speaking at the 11th International Meeting on Criminal Sciences, which concluded on Thursday, Yoandry Gonzalez, chief of the Department of Operational Cooperation of the National Revolutionary Police (PNR), said the cache of drugs was composed mainly of marijuana and a small amount of hashish. The amount is "the highest in the past 8 years," said Gonzalez, adding anti-narcotics operations were carried out in conjunction with the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) Customs Office of the Republic.

Most seizures in Cuba take place along the coasts, since drugs are often shipped by boat and thrown overboard by traffickers when they fear being found. Packages of drugs are sometimes also dropped into the sea north of Cuba by low-flying small aircraft, which are to be picked up later by speed boats headed to US shores. "In 2011 and the first half of 2012, authorities detected an increase in international (drug) trafficking from Jamaica to the Bahamas, destined for the United States, the world's largest drug consumer," Gonzalez told participants at the meeting.—Xinhua

Sudan gov't vows to pursue attackers of UNAMID patrol**in Darfur Sudan**

KHARTOUM, 5 Oct—Sudanese government on Thursday vowed to pursue the perpetrators who attacked a patrol belonging to the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) in the country's Darfur region, which left four UNAMID peacekeepers killed and eight others injured.

"The (Sudanese) government is determined to carry out a thorough investigation on the ambush against a patrol belonging to UNAMID," said a statement by Darfur Peace Follow-up Office at the

Presidency of the Republic. The statement expressed Sudan government's condemnation of the treacherous attack against the UNAMID peacekeepers.

UNAMID on Wednesday announced that four of its peacekeepers were killed and eight others injured by gunmen in an ambush in Sudan's Darfur region.

It said unidentified gunmen opened fire on a UNAMID patrol late Tuesday about 2 km away from their base in El Geneina town, the capital of West Darfur State.

Four members of the Nigerian battalion were killed and eight others were injured, the mission noted.

UNAMID took over the peacekeeping mission in Darfur from the African Union Mission in Sudan on 31 December, 2007. The mission was planned to deploy 26,000 members of military and police to protect civilians in the region, who have been suffering from a civil war since 2003.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

India raises foreign equity in insurance industry, pension

India

NEW DELHI, 5 Oct—The Indian government on Thursday showed its determination to carry out what it called "bite bullet" reform measures by announcing a partial opening of insurance and pension markets to foreign funds.

"The Indian Cabinet raised the FDI cap in insurance sector from 26 percent to 49 percent and allowed up to 26 percent in the pension funds. Now, Indian Parliament will have to give its approval for the final shape," the sources said.

This came weeks after Prime Minister Manmohan Singh announced the opening of the country's multi-brand retail sector to

foreign direct investment by 51 percent and aviation and media market to foreign funds, despite stiff opposition from both rightwing and leftwing opposition parties, as well as the ruling Congress-led United Progressive Alliance's former eastern ally, the Trinamul Congress, which pulled out from the coalition in protest.

On 13 Sept, the government approved the allowance of 51 percent foreign investment in multi-brand retail, besides relaxing FDI norms for civil aviation and broadcasting sectors.

The government also raised diesel price and capped supply of

government subsidized gas cylinders to households last month, triggering widespread protests and a nationwide strike.

Calling them Reform II measures, Prime Minister Singh made the decision at a cabinet session which also agreed to amend Companies Act of the country.

The prime minister has justified his measures, saying it is time for India to make hard decisions due to economic slowdown and global recession.

India's GDP growth rate is expected to drop to around 5.5 percent in the current fiscal.

Xinhua



Tourists from France attend the tug-of-war game in Gaowen Village of Miao Autonomous County of Rongshui, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 3 Oct, 2012. Tourists from home and abroad participated in a series of activities held by local people to celebrate China's National Day holiday. —XINHUA

Singapore Prime Minister sends condolences to Hong Kong

Singapore

SINGAPORE, 5 Oct—Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has sent condolences to Leung Chun-Ying, chief executive of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, on the recent ferry collision off the coast of Lamma Island that claimed 38 lives.

In his letter, Lee said he was deeply saddened to learn of the collision, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Thursday.

Lee said he sent his deepest condolences to Leung, the families of the victims, as well as the people of Hong Kong for their loss.

"Our thoughts are with you and your people in this time of sorrow," he said.

The collision on Monday night involving a ferry and a boat claimed 38 lives. It was the worst maritime accident in Hong Kong in over 40 years.—Xinhua

52 kg of narcotics seized in Sydney joint operation

Australia

SYDNEY, 5 Oct—An estimated 52 kg of narcotics with a street value of up to 52 million AU dollars (53.22 million US dollars) have been seized in a joint operation in Sydney, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) said on Thursday.

The Joint Organized Crime Group (JOCG), a joint taskforce comprising of the AFP, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, New South Wales (NSW) Police Force, NSW Crime Commission and Australian Crime Commission (ACC), arrested and charged two Canadian men aged 65 and 36 after stopping their

car in the Sydney suburb of Rosehill on Wednesday.

Police had earlier seized 52 kg of an illicit substance suspected to be methylamphetamine from a Wentworth Point premises in Sydney's inner west, allegedly occupied by the two men.

The two Canadians were charged with supplying a large commercial quantity of a prohibited drug, the AFP said in a joint statement. The two men appeared in Parramatta Local Court on Thursday and have been remanded in custody until 29 November to appear in Sydney Central Local Court.

Xinhua



A performer (2nd, L) tells people not to eat wild animals by performance art during an exhibition about caring for wildlife in Jiufeng Forest Zoo in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 3 Oct, 2012. Students from Faculty of Life Science in Hubei University organized the performance art exhibition to welcome the World Animal Day which falls on Thursday. —XINHUA

Visitors view the works of British photographer William Pryor Floyd in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 2 Oct, 2012. A dedicated exhibition of Floyd's photographic works on Asia, taken between 1860 and 1873, is available in Shenzhen from 1 to 26 Oct. —XINHUA



Int'l experts share experiences with Cambodia on security

Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 5 Oct—A conference on security sector governance and reform was held here on Thursday, with ASEAN member states discussing and sharing experiences in security sector with Cambodia, official said.

During the one-day event, foremost experts from Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines shared their experiences and best practices with Cambodian defence officials on security sector governance and reform, Norodom Sirivudh, founder and chairman of the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace, said.

"The conference would contribute to further strengthening security sector governance and reform, which is a great step towards strengthening sustainable peace, stability and development for Cambodian people," he said.

He said Cambodia's security sector governance and reform is a part of the ASEAN Political Security

Community building process in 2015.

Addressing the opening ceremony of the conference, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Tea Banh said that Cambodian people had gone through prolonged civil war and armed conflict for decades, so they really understand the value of peace and stability.

He said that for Cambodia, security sector governance including security

sector reform, weapon disarmament, demilitarization, and rule of law integration is a key element for building and maintaining peace after the end of the war in 1998.

The conference was co-organized by the Ministry of Defence and the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace with the support of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland.—Xinhua

FAO, Mongolia sign cooperation agreements

Mongolia

ULAN BATOR, 5 Oct—The UN food agency on Thursday signed five cooperation memorandums with Mongolia as the country aims to become a wheat and livestock production base in the Asia-Pacific region.

Jose Graziano da Silva, director-general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), spoke highly of Mongolia's achievements in farming and animal husbandry during a meeting with Khaltmaa Battulga, the Mongolian minister for industry and agriculture.

He said the FAO will expand its cooperation with Mongolia and support its efforts to build farms, improve food production and ensure

food safety.

Battulga said the Mongolian government has proposed to improve the quality of agriculture and livestock products for export and turn Mongolia into a wheat and livestock production base in the Asia-Pacific.

Thanks to good weather this year, Mongolia has seen bountiful harvests for its farmers and herders. The government has said grain and potato production can fully meet domestic needs.

Since its third land reclamation campaign in 2008, Mongolia's grain production has increased for four years running, and its grain output in 2011 totalled 430,000 tons, making it self-sufficient.

Xinhua

BOJ leaves monetary policy unchanged amid political pressure

Japan

TOKYO, 5 Oct—The Bank of Japan left its monetary policy unchanged Friday in an apparent move to assess the impact of additional steps taken at its meeting last month, despite growing political pressure to further ease its monetary grip with the attendance of new economic and fiscal policy minister Seiji Maehara.

After joining the central bank's meeting as a government representative, Maehara, who has called on the central bank to buy foreign bonds to help stem the yen's appreciation, told reporters he will continue to urge the BOJ to pursue "powerful" monetary easing, though refraining from unveiling what he said at the meeting.

But BOJ Governor Masaaki Shirakawa ex-



Bank of Japan Governor Masaaki Shirakawa attends a Policy Board meeting at the BOJ head office in Tokyo on 5 Oct, 2012.—KYODO

pressed a negative view about the purchase of foreign bonds by the BOJ, saying such action which is considered tantamount to foreign exchange intervention would be dealt with solely by the finance minister.—Kyodo

BUSINESS & ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OCEAN FRIEND VOY NO (48)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OCEAN FRIEND VOY NO (48) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (4) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the 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.

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

Phone No: 256924/256914

US, Mexico can manage tomato trade dispute

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct—The United States and Mexico can manage a heated dispute over bilateral tomato trade without it widening into a broader trade war, a top US trade official said on Thursday in response to industry concerns.

"You're bound to have tensions" in any trade relationship as large as the United States and Mexico have, Francisco Sanchez, under secretary of commerce for international trade, told *Reuters* in an interview.

"Historically, when we've had them, we've gotten through them. I'm pretty confident that we'll get through this one too in a way that preserves the very strong and important relationship," Sanchez said.

US groups such as the Chamber of Commerce and the National Foreign Trade Council have raised concern about a possible trade war after the Commerce Department announced a preliminary decision last week in favor of terminating a 16-year-old tomato trade agreement with Mexico.

Mexican officials also decried the decision and said it appeared to be motivated by presidential politics.

Tomato growers in Florida, one of a handful of

battleground states expected to determine the 6 November presidential election, have been pressing President Barack Obama's administration since June to terminate the pact.

They argue the agreement, which sets a minimum price for Mexican tomatoes sold in the United States, is badly out of date and does not reflect their current production costs.

Mexican growers prefer the stability provide by the pact, and have offered to renegotiate it in the hopes of avoiding a costly new anti-dumping complaint filed by Florida producers.

Sanchez acknowledged the Commerce Department's decision has stirred strong emotions on both sides of the US-Mexico border, but denied it was motivated by politics.—*Reuters*

Russia considers Arctic licenses for western oil

majors: FT Russia

LONDON, 5 Oct—Russia is considering allowing Western companies to own oil licenses in its Arctic waters, Energy Minister Alexander Novak was quoted as saying in Friday's *Financial Times*.

The *FT* reported, without providing a full direct quote, that Novak said the proposal would allow foreign oil majors not only to operate offshore projects but also to "have access to production" and become "co-owners of the licenses".

Novak was cited as saying the idea was being discussed in the energy ministry, although no final decision had been taken.

Only companies that were environmentally safe, technologically advanced and financially robust would qualify, the *FT* said.

Earlier this month, state-owned oil giant



Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak answers journalists' questions during the Reuters Russia Investment Summit in Moscow on 27 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Gazprom OAO delayed the start of production at its Prirazlomnoye field, the first Russian Arctic offshore oil deposit to be developed, due to safety concerns.

The Arctic is seen as a key source of oil in the next decade for Russia, the world's largest producer.—*Reuters*



A newlywed couple pose for photos at a beach in Shanghai, east China, on 3 Oct, 2012. The Mid-Autumn Festival and Chinese National Day holiday, which lasts from 30 Sept to 7 Oct, offers lovers a good chance to get married. XINHUA

Spain might not fulfill 2012 deficit target:

Spain Bank governor

MADRID, 5 Oct — Governor of the Bank of Spain Luis Maria Linde said on Thursday that the country might not fulfill the deficit target required for 2012 by the European Union (UE).

Linda, who was at the Spanish parliament analyzing the General State Budget 2013 adopted last Friday by the government, said it will be difficult for Spain to achieve the deficit target, considering data of the budget implementation.

He also added that "taking into account the importance of achieving the deficit target, additional measures should be considered," which means more cuts needed in order to reach the deficit target required by Brussels.

However, Spanish Minister of Economy and Competitiveness Luis de Guindos said on Wednesday that even asking for a bailout, Spain would not need more adjustments than those that were already on the agenda.

Moreover, Linde branded the estimate of the fall of the GDP in 2013 made by the government as "certainly optimistic".

The Spanish government predicts that the GDP will fall by 0.5 percent in 2013, but Linde pointed out that other analysts and international organizations predicted a 1.5 percent GDP contraction. Linde foresaw the GDP contraction between 1 percent and 1.5 percent.

Xinhua

Ukraine pledges stable gas supplies to Europe in winter

Ukraine

KIEV, 5 Oct — Ukraine is ready to ensure uninterrupted gas supplies to Europe during the winter heating season of 2012-2013, First Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Khoroshkovsky said on Thursday.

"I think that during this winter and in the near future there will be no gas crisis, because we cooperate in the framework of the signed agreements," Khoroshkovsky told the participants in the third Black Sea Economic Forum in Livadia.

Ukraine, jointly with Russian and European partners, will prevent new gas disruptions and this winter the heating season will pass quietly, Khoroshkovsky said.

During a week-long cold snap in February 2012, supplies of Russian gas reaching Europe through Ukraine were cut. The gas crisis led to accusations that Moscow had sharply cut gas supplies.

Russian gas giant Gazprom said it was sending the full volume, and accused Ukraine of taking more gas than it contracted. Ukraine denied any contract violations.

In June, Gazprom loaned Ukraine, which carries as much as 80 percent of Russian natural gas westwards, 2 billion US dollars to pay for gas supplies throughout the winter.—*Xinhua*

India, Australia may sign nuclear agreement

NEW DELHI, 5 Oct — India and Australia are likely to ink a civil nuclear agreement when Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard visits New Delhi on 15 October, highly placed sources said.

"The civil nuclear pact is expected to be signed between the two countries during Prime Minister Gillard's three-day visit during which she will meet Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh," the sources said.

Months ago, Australia had reversed a longstanding ban on uranium sale to India.

"However, if the pact is inked, then Australia is likely to demand a strict uranium safeguards agreement and more access to Indian nuclear facilities to inspect safe use of uranium supplied to India," the sources added.

Australia has the largest uranium deposits in the world.—*Xinhua*



Contestants from Belgium participate in the Euroskills 2012 competition in Francorchamps, Belgium, on 4 Oct, 2012. The Euroskills 2012, a biennial event with international impact, is held in Francorchamps from Thursday to Saturday. XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Lindsay Lohan was bullied in high school



NEW DELHI, 5 Oct—Lindsay Lohan said: “They would yell things, try to trip me & more. I moved to home-schooling instead. In 11th grade. I stuck it out for a while. (sic)”

Actress Lindsay Lohan has revealed she was targeted by her classmates for landing successful acting roles as a teenager and was mocked for her dysfunctional family situation.

The starlet tweeted: “I was actually bullied @ my public school when I would leave to film. Whenever I came back? girls & boys would call me names (sic). They would also mock me because of my home situation, when people found out that my father was in jail.”

The tormenting got so bad that the actress — who famously played a school misfit turned bully in teen comedy Mean Girls — decided to drop out of school in favour of home tutoring.

Lindsay Lohan added: “They would yell things, try to trip me & more. I moved to home-schooling instead. In 11th grade. I stuck it out for a while. (sic)”

The Liz & Dick actress’ confession came after she was moved to tears by chat show host Katie Couric’s interview with bullied 16-year-old Whitney Kropp, who was elected prom queen by her peers as a joke, and Lindsay took to twitter to take a stand against bullying.

She wrote: “@katiecouric I think what you did today on your show for#WhitneyKropp was lovely. It had me crying. I’d love to meet her.#stopbullying (sic)”.

PTI

Cheryl Cole to cameo in The Hangover Part III?



LOS ANGELES, 5 Oct—Cheryl Cole is likely to make a cameo in the third sequel of Hangover.

Actor-comedian Zach Galifianakis has sparked rumours that singer Cheryl Cole will make a cameo in the third sequel of Hangover.

Galifianakis, 43, is known for his role of Alan Garner in the comedy movie franchise that also stars Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms and Justin Bartha.

“I have heard the rumours about her (Cole) making a cameo and there seems to be something to them. But I don’t know if anything’s signed yet,” *FHM* magazine quoted Galifianakis as saying.

The movie franchise began with Hangover in 2009 followed by The Hangover Part II in 2011. All three movies have been directed by Todd Phillips. — PTI

Cheryl Cole is likely to make a cameo in the third sequel of Hangover.

It’s all black and white in new Picasso exhibition

NEW YORK, 5 Oct—Pablo Picasso may be best known for his Blue and Rose Periods and Cubism but the Spanish artist also used black and white in his works, many of which will be shown in a new exhibition opening on Friday at New York’s Guggenheim Museum.

“Picasso Black and White,” which runs through

exhibition,” said Richard Armstrong, the director of the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum and Foundation.

“We think this offers new insights into his creative character,” he added.

From “La Repasseuse” a stark, somber 1904 oil on canvas painting of an angular woman ironing to “The Kiss,” a work in dark gray and black

the minimal use of colour in Picasso’s works in the exhibition showed his focus on line, form, drawings and tones, which is evident in “The Kitchen,” a 1948 painting of angles, circles, curves, and varying shades of gray.

“His interest in on drawing and on the line,” she explained in an interview.

Reuters

This is the first exhibition that examines his continuous use of the black and white palette throughout his career, therefore we think it is a ground-breaking exhibition.



Pablo Picasso’s “The Charnel House” Paris 1944-45; dated 1945, an oil and charcoal on canvas is seen in this undated handout photo released to Reuters on 4 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

23 January and includes 118 paintings, sculptures and works on paper from 1904 to 1971, focuses on Picasso’s exploration of the use of the two colours. “This is the first exhibition that examines his continuous use of the black and white palette throughout his career, therefore we think it is a ground-breaking

that was completed decades later, the exhibition runs in chronological order up the curving ramps of the museum.

It includes works that have never been seen in public before and more than 30 will be on view in the United States for the first time.

Carmen Gimenez, the curator of the exhibition, said

Cameron Diaz has always been an independent person

MUMBAI, 5 Oct—Cameron Diaz says her parents told her to be sensible, especially when it came to her career.

The 40-year-old actress says her parents instilled discipline into her from an early age as they said it was important she could look after herself in any situation.

In an interview in the UK edition of *Esquire* magazine, she said: “I learned to do everything from a very

Jewellery worth \$125,000 stolen from Julianne Moore’s house

LONDON, 5 Oct—Julianne Moore has had \$125,000 worth of jewellery stolen from her home.

The *Single Man* actress — who recently won an Emmy for her portrayal of Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin in TV movie *Game Change* - lost items including a \$33,000 Cartier bracelet and four Cartier watches from her house in New York’s West Village during the summer.

The items disappeared between early June and late August, but were not noticed as Julianne and her husband Bart Freundlich were away from the property while it

was being renovated.

Bob Gibson, a resident on Julianne’s block, said he was sad to hear of what happened.

He told the *New York Daily News* newspaper: “It’s sad to hear something like this happened to one of your neighbours. She’s a very good neighbour.

That’s how I see her.” The items were not secured, and the theft was reported on October 1 by one of Julianne’s assistants.

Police are believed to be questioning workers who were hired to do the maintenance in the five-story house, which included



decorating and plumbing.

However, no arrests have as yet been made.

PTI



young age.

My parents were like, ‘You’re going to be yourself.’ So everything from doing the laundry, to cooking, to cleaning the entire house, scrubbing toilets, picking up the dog sh*t. And, things were done right. Everything was checked. It wasn’t fun, but my parents could have sold us when we were two or three and broken even ... So we had to pay off!”

As well as making her self-reliant, Cameron says her parents told her to be sensible, especially when it came to her career.

Speaking about when she was first modelling, the blonde beauty said: “My mama always told me that nothing’s for free. I had girlfriends that had producer boyfriends who were like, ‘We can go to his house and take his jet.’ But I was like, even if I don’t do anything with these guys at the house, everyone who sees me with them just assumes that I did. So that costs me. So actually, it’s not for free. So thank you for the invitation, but I don’t want to pay the price.”

PTI

SPORTS



Soccer

Samuel Eto'o

Eto'o scores brace for Anzhi amid Europa League upsets

BERNE, 5 Oct—Samuel Eto'o scored twice to give ambitious Anzhi Makhachkala a 2-0 Europa League win over Young Boys on Thursday while Videoton and Sparta Prague pulled off surprise wins.

Eto'o, who last week ended his stand-off with Cameroon officials and agreed to play for his country again, converted a 62th minute penalty against the run of play.

He then turned in Oleg Shatov's cross in the last minute to complete a 2-0 win over the Swiss side and extend Anzhi's unbeaten run to seven matches in the competition, including the qualifiers. The match was played in front of a sparse crowd in Moscow, where Anzhi are playing for security reasons after UEFA refused to let them stage matches in the violence-plagued Dagestan region.

Videoton gave Hungarian football a rare boost with a 3-0 win over Sporting, the goals coming in the first half from Paulo Vinicius, Filipe Oliveira and Nemanja Nikolic, while Sparta Prague beat last season's runners-up Athletic Bilbao 3-1. Inter Milan enjoyed an easy 3-1 win at Azerbaijan's Neftci thanks to first-half goals from Philippe Coutinho, Joel Obi and Marko Livaja, all set up by Colombian Fredy Guarin.

Compatriots Lazio scraped a 1-0 win at home to Slovenia's Maribor with a 62nd minute goal by Brazilian Ederson.

Reuters

Schumacher to retire from F1 Motor Racing again

SUZUKA, (Japan), 5 Oct—Michael Schumacher announced his retirement from Formula One for the second time and at the age of 43 on Thursday after failing to rekindle his old Ferrari magic in a disappointing comeback with Mercedes.

The team had already announced last week that the seven-times world champion, winner of a record 91 races in a career that started in 1991, would be replaced by McLaren's Lewis Hamilton for the start of the 2013 campaign.

Schumacher told reporters, packed into the confined space of the tented Mercedes hospitality at the Suzuka circuit ahead of Sunday's Japanese Grand Prix, that his decision came as a relief.

"I have decided to retire by the end of the year, although I am still able and capable to compete with the best drivers that are around,"

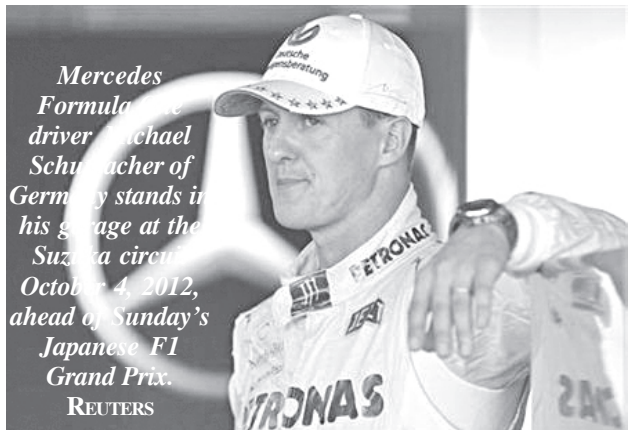
he declared, reading from a statement. "But at some point, it is good to say goodbye. And that is what I am doing here... and it might this time even be forever," he smiled.

Schumacher's first retirement came at the end of 2006, after he had won five titles in a row with Ferrari from 2000 and two with Benetton in 1994 and 1995.

That departure proved premature, with the most successful driver in the 62-year history of the sport unable to resist the allure of a return with Mercedes when the Stuttgart-based manufacturer bought the title-winning Brawn GP team in 2009.

The move reunited him with friend and former Ferrari technical director Ross Brawn, now the team principal, but together they were unable to roll back the years and regain the heights of old.

Reuters



Mercedes Formula 1 driver Michael Schumacher of Germany stands in his garage at the Suzuka circuit on October 4, 2012, ahead of Sunday's Japanese F1 Grand Prix. REUTERS

Indonesians John and Yordan to defend titles in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 5 Oct—WBA champion Chris John will defend his super world featherweight title on 9 November in Singapore against Thailand's Chonlatarn Piriyaipinyo, Indonesian media reported on Thursday.

Undefeated John will headline a card at the Marina Bay Sands resort that also features Indonesian compatriot Daud Yordan defending his IBO featherweight title against Choi Tseveenpurev of Mongolia. It is the second fight in the southeast Asian city-state for John—47 wins, 0 defeats, 2 draws, 22 knockouts—who defended his title with a lopsided points decision win over defensive Japanese challenger Shoji

Kimura in May.

John, 33, voted WBA fighter of the decade earlier this month, will be making his 17th title defence but critics will be unhappy that he is once again not taking on the



WBA champion Chris John

best in the division.

Mexican Orlando Salido is one place above John on the highly-regarded Ring Magazine's rankings, with undefeated American Mikey Garcia third and another Mexican Daniel Ponce De Leon fourth. While Chonlatarn boasts an impressive looking 44-0 record with 27 knockouts he hasn't boxed outside of genuine world class stature.

The 27-year-old, however, does boast two victories over compatriot and former bantamweight world champion Yoddamrong Sithyodthong. Yordan (29-2, 23 KOs) will be facing a far more experienced opponent in the English-based

Boxing

Tseveenpurev (36-5, 24 KOs) who previously held a version of the world title at 126 pounds.

The 25-year-old will be making the first defence of the title he won on the undercard of John's fight in Singapore in May where he picked himself up after a first-round knockdown to knockout Lorenzo Villanueva in the second. "I've seen (Tseveenpurev's) videotaped matches several times and he's a real fighter, the kind of opponent that I like. It'll be a great fight," Yordan told the Jakarta Globe.

"I have age as my advantage but he has the experience. I also believe he'll fight hard for the title. That's why I must not take him lightly."—Reuters

Amazing Grace equals European Tour record of 60

Golf

ST ANDREWS, (Scotland), 5 Oct—South African Branden Grace equalled the European Tour record when he shot a blistering 12-under-par 60 midway through the

Andrews, one of three layouts being used this week.

Grace became the 14th player to shoot a 60 on the European Tour.

Northern Ireland's

Thorbjorn Olesen was also on form at the famous Old Course, returning a 63 in the \$5 million Dunhill pro-am tournament.

Ryder Cup hero Martin Kaymer (70) played at the more testing Carnoustie layout and missed a par putt at the 18th of a similar length to the one he holed in Chicago last Sunday to win the trophy for Europe.

"The putter was not really hot but in general you've got to play solid at the toughest course we play here," the 2010 US PGA champion told reporters. "It's a very nice feeling to come here after Sunday. A lot of people told me it was their best sporting experience on TV," added the German.

Europe came back from 10-6 down to score a stunning 14 1/2-13 1/2 win over United States in the biennial team event. Kaymer's Ryder Cup team mates Paul Lawrie (75) and Peter Hanson (72), both playing at Carnoustie, also found the going tough.

Reuters



Branden Grace

first round of the Dunhill Links Championship on Thursday.

Grace, a triple winner on the tour in 2012, clipped two strokes off Lee Westwood's previous Kingsbarns record of 62 set in 2003 after finishing with five straight birdies.

Frenchman Victor Dubuisson was two shots off the lead on 62 after breaking the course record at St

Darren Clarke, the 2011 British Open winner, is the only man to card two 60s on the circuit, in 1992 and 1999.

Long-hitting Frenchman Dubuisson broke the previous St Andrews best of 63 held by world number one Rory McIlroy, former top-ranked player Luke Donald and fellow Briton Simon Dyson. Young Dane

QPR open to Barton making Marseille loan move permanent

LONDON, 5 Oct—QPR chief executive Phil Beard has revealed the club may consider making controversial midfielder Joey Barton's loan deal to Marseille permanent. "Everything is possible," said Beard. "Joey is ultimately still a QPR employee. A lot will depend on how his move works out and we'll look at it at the end of the season.

"We bought Joey when Neil [Warnock] was the manager and we needed to bring players in. We did it with the right intentions. But I think it is fair to say that the club has moved on significantly in the last 12 months. "There is no question that Joey is a good footballer. If he can manage the other side of his life then he has two or three good years left to offer. "Joey has a chance now. He had one or two options in the Championship which were not suitable for us or him. This agreement works for everybody."—Reuters

Heptathlon

Games golden girl Ennis named European athlete of 2012

LONDON, 5 Oct—Olympic heptathlon champion Jessica Ennis has been named the women's European athlete of 2012, European Athletics said in a statement on Thursday. Briton Ennis, whose image adorned posters promoting the London Games, fell narrowly short of the 7,000 point barrier while claiming the gold medal.

She still notched 6,955 points and became the second woman only to score more than 6,900 points twice in the same year after American world record holder Jackie Joyner-Kersey in 1988.—Reuters



Limassol's Marios Nikolaou, left, challenges for the ball with Marseille's Bristol midfielder Joe Barton during their Europa League Group C soccer match, in Marseille, southern France, Thursday, on 4 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(6-10-12 09:30 am ~ 7-10-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Towards A Society for All Ages
- * News
- * Tri Star Art Show
- * The Legend of Thein Tan (Myanmar Pyi) (Part-2)
- * News
- * Road to the 27th SEA GAMES "judo"
- * News
- * The Loom...Patterns of Wavy Floral
- * News
- * 1st Technical Field-Wise Seminars JICA Alumni Association

- * News
- * Cruising to Precious Islands (Salon) Parts-1
- * News
- * New Steo of Jet San Htun
- * News Tid-Bits
- * News
- * Yu Suk Dance of Chin National
- * Myanmar Movie "The Concealed Love"

MYANMAR TV

(6-10-2012, Saturday)

- 7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
 - Uppatahandi Paritta
- 7:25 am
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:50 am
 3. Nice & Sweet Song

- 8:00 am
 4. Health Programme
- 8:15 am
 5. Poem Garden
- 8:25 am
 6. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Oldies & Mono Classial (Higher Education Level) (Men)
- 8:45 am
 7. Road to 27th SEA GAMES (Sepah Pahraw)
- 11:00 am
 8. Martial Song
- 11:25 am
 9. Game For Children
- 11:50 am
 10. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 1:40 pm
 11. Song of National Races
- 1:45 pm
 12. Teleplay
- 2:35 pm
 13. Song Programme
- 4:05 pm
 14. Cultural Dances
- 4:35 pm
 15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Home Economic)
- 5:10 pm
 16. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 6:35 pm
 17. Celebraity and Dinner
- 8:00 pm
 18. News
 19. Cartoon Series
 18. TV Drama Series
 19. Gitadagale Phwfnbaohn



Visitors tour at the science and technology museum in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 4 Oct, 2012. People around China enjoy themselves in various ways during the Mid-Autumn Festival and National Day holiday, which last from 30 Sept to 7 Oct. —XINHUA

Real's Kaka working his way back into contention Soccer

MADRID, 5 Oct—For a 30-year-old former World Player of the Year who cost Real Madrid 67 million euros (53.6 million pounds) three years ago, Kaka has been spending a surprising amount of time warming the bench.

The Brazilian appeared to have been discarded from coach Jose Mourinho's plans and the arrival of fellow playmaker Luka Modric from Tottenham was interpreted by many as the final nail in the coffin of his undistinguished stint in the Spain capital.

Linked in the media with moves to former club AC Milan or Paris St Germain, he only made his first appearance of the campaign on Sunday, coming off the bench in Real's 5-1 La Liga win at home to Deportivo Coruna, their ninth game of the season.

However, Mourinho surprised many by including Kaka in the starting lineup for Wednesday's 4-1 Champions League win at Ajax and he responded with a performance full of verve and creativity that suggests he may be working his way back into contention.

"I was surprised to be starting," Kaka told reporters after the match at the Amsterdam Arena, during which he provided a delightful

assist for Karim Benzema's breathtaking 48th-minute overhead kick and came close to scoring several times himself.

"I found out in the afternoon but at Real Madrid we all have to always be prepared to play," he added. "I had a very bad time. Starting games is a personal goal and if I work hard things will come good." After consolidating their position at the top of Champions League Group D on six points from two matches, Real play at Barcelona on Sunday.

A victory for Barca in the La Liga 'Clasico' at the Nou Camp will stretch their lead over the bitter rivals to 11 points and Kaka said he was ready to play if selected in a match which could go a long way to deciding the championship.

Mourinho said his decision to initially leave Mesut Ozil on the bench on Wednesday before deploying the German playmaker in place of Kaka for the final 15 minutes was "nothing definitive".

"I decided that with his (Kaka's) characteristics, the nature of the opponent and the work he did during the week, it would be good for us if he played against Ajax," the Portuguese told a news conference. —Reuters



Ajax Amsterdam's Niklas Moisander (L) fights for the ball with Real Madrid's Kaka during their Champions League Group D soccer match at the Amsterdam Arena stadium on 3 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

Pennsylvania lawmakers eye tighter oversight of local debt US



The Pennsylvania State house is seen on the north side of the business district in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on 18 Jan, 2012. —REUTERS

HARRISBURG, 5 Oct — Pennsylvania legislators, grappling with capital city Harrisburg's \$340 million of debt, set out on Thursday to tighten the state law that governs how cities and towns win approval for complex, taxpayer-funded projects.

In a day-long hearing, members of Pennsylvania's Senate Local Government

Committee questioned former local officials publicly for the first time about how Harrisburg could have racked up so much debt tied to renovations of its ill-fated trash incinerator.

"legislative fixes that can guarantee that this fiscal debacle does not get revisited on any taxpayer across the commonwealth," said state Sen. John Blake,

the Democratic chair of the committee.

"I think this is a more pervasive issue throughout the entire commonwealth that affects the fiscal health of all of our communities."

Committee Chairman John Eichelberger, a Republican from central Pennsylvania, said changes could include incorporating a tougher review process with penalties for those who misrepresent their projects.

When Harrisburg filed for bankruptcy in October 2011, it became a cautionary tale about how a single troubled project could bring a struggling city to the financial collapse.

A handful of other US municipalities—in particular, Alabama's Jefferson County, which filed the country's largest Chapter 9 bankruptcy last November — were also

undone largely by debt from underperforming public projects financed with revenue bonds.

Harrisburg's bankruptcy case was thrown out because state legislators passed a law banning the city from filing.

That ban was extended until 30 November. If lawmakers don't extend the ban again, William Lynch, the city's state-appointed receiver, could put the city into bankruptcy again.

Lynch's attorney, Mark Kaufman, declined to tell the audience at the Bloomberg State & Municipal Finance Conference in New York on Wednesday whether Lynch would put the city into bankruptcy if the ban expires.

Kaufman added that municipalities ought to avoid Chapter 9 if possible.

Reuters

Swedish government announces measures to improve housing supply Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 5 Oct—The Swedish government announced on Thursday that it proposed to improve housing market in its autumn budget by increasing housing supply.

The government aimed to shorten processing time for construction application and to relax regulations on building student apartments so as to increase the insufficient housing supply at the moment, according to a statement.

It is included in the plan that the government would make it cheaper for construction companies to follow related standards and regulations of

the European Union. Measures would also be taken to encourage private property owners to rent out their houses and apartment to meet the great demand in housing market.

"There is a considerable housing shortage in Sweden and therefore we have to take advantage of the apartments that we already have," said Stefan Attefall, Swedish Minister for Public Administration and Housing. With better and clearer regulations, security would be created for both sides who rents out the apartment and who rents it, he added. —Xinhua

Mrs. Vimla Varma (a) Daw Win Marlar (a) Daw Wein Marlar (Mogok Yogi) Aged 90 years

Wife of late (Zeya Kyawhtin Major S.K. Varma), mother of (Tonny Varma), U Madam Chan, Ms. Shela Varma, (U Aung Kyaw)+Ms. Dolly Varma (Union Attorney General's Office), Melvin Gulati+ Ms. Rupa Varma and beloved grandmother of Sunny+Richa Bunny, Kaung Kyaw+Thesu Naung Naung and great grandmother of Ei Sandra Han, expired on 5-10-2012 (Friday) at 1:30 am and her remains shall move from Yeway mortuary to the cemetery for cremation on 7-10-2012 (Sunday) at 4:00 pm. (Motorcade shall leave residence at 2:00 pm for burnial attendant.) We would like to invite all our friends near and far to attend offering of soon (meal) to Sanghas on the 7th day of her demise on 11-10-2012 (Thursday) from 7:00 am to 11:00 am.

Breaved family

Myanmar joins Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—A Myanmar parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint attended the 7th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP-7) in Vientiane, Laos from 2 to 5 October.

On arrival at Vientiane International Airport on 1 October evening, the parliamentary delegation was welcomed by Chairman of Ethnic Affairs Committee of Laotian National Assembly Mr Donangdy Outhachek, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Kyaw Soe Win, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Win Myint and officials.

The parliamentary delegation attended the dinner hosted by Vice-President of Laotian National Assembly Dr Xaysomphone Phom Vihane at Don Chan Palace



Those present at the 7th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP-7) pose for documentary photo.

MNA

Hotel on 2 September evening.

The parliamentary delegation together with 28 parliamentary delegations from Asian and European countries, and representatives of international organizations

such as IMF, UNDP, UNISDR attended the opening of ASEP-7 at Convention Hall of Don Chan Palace Hotel on 3 October morning. On the occasion, President of Laotian National Assembly Mrs Pany Yathotou, Prime Minister of Lao PDR Mr

Thongsing Thammavong and leader of Belgium parliamentary delegation Mr Rik Torfs, delivered speeches.

The first day plenary meeting was held at 10.30 am. In his speech to the meeting, Speaker of

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint expressed his pleasure to attend the meeting on behalf of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of Myanmar. He said Myanmar attended ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly as a special observer for two

decades and became a permanent member in 32nd assembly before it joined the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at its 126th meeting. He revealed the intention of presence at the ASEP-7 as for cooperation with (See page 9)

Perspective on forthcoming public service media-PSM

Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

“Public service broadcasting helps to create a greater sense of national identity, foster democratic and other important social values, provide quality educational and informational programming, and serve the needs of minority and other specialized interest groups,” Union Information Minister U Aung Kyi stated at the Public Service Media Conference in Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon, on 24 September 2012.

Concerning the likelihood of the emergence of public service media in Myanmar in the very near future through the reform process, we of the MNA team interviewed Dr. Thida Tin, Deputy Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department. A former professor of International Relations Department, Dagon University of Yangon, Dr. Thida Tin took part in the conference.

MNA: Your view on the public media service-PSM madam.

Dr. TT: First, PSM must have the resources to – (a) represent all the citizens; (b) reflect diversity of the community; (c) offer news that has fairness, objectivity and credibility; (d) focus on the voices of the minority and vulnerable groups; (e) practise editorial independence and to be independent from political and commercial interests; (f) have financial independence. Southeast Asian countries are also practising the PSM.

The conversion of the state media into public service media is one of the tasks of our democratization process. Actually, this task is in accord with the people-centred policy of the President and meets the international norm. Normally, democratic countries have the right to publish independent private dailies, and run independent TV, radio, publication, internet services and other broadcasting or

publication services. Our country will also convert state-owned dailies and TV and radio broadcasting services into PSM.

MNA: What systems are practised in international community regarding public service media? Is there any plan to publish State-owned newspapers as Public Service Media (PSM)?

Dr. TT: The authoritarian governments in making a shift to democracy in 1990s at the end of Cold War transformed the State-owned newspaper to PSM and privatized some newspapers. PSM is aimed to represent the interests of vulnerable groups and minorities. Coordination is being made in Myanmar to launch PSM newspaper.

MNA: If so, how about editorial independence? To what extent, it would be granted?

Dr. TT: As regards editorial independence, the newspapers must be independent from state and politics and commercial interferences. They must reflect opinions of the people, rather than acting as mouthpiece of authorities. They must not represent a particular social class or a specific group. The Governing Body of public service newspapers must be formed to make it happen.

MNA: Let me know the financial freedom of PSM.

Dr. TT: Public service media is that the governing body comprising those with wide experience and expertise in their respective fields of work govern it freely and the executive board is to manage its day to day work. The move is that it needs to transform from the government’s cent per cent financial assistances into the corporation

(See page 9)

Murray staves off Wawrinka to reach semis at Japan Open

TOKYO, 5 Oct—Reigning US Open champion Andy Murray held off Swiss seventh seed Stanislas Wawrinka 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 on Friday to reach the semifinals of the Japan Open.

The 25-year-old Brit, the top seed here and world No. 3, breezed through the first set, breaking his opponent twice along the way, but ran into trouble when he dropped his first set of the week in the next on a sunny afternoon on center court at Ariake Tennis Forest Park.

“It was a tough first match. I started well but Stan came back at the beginning of the second set. There were a lot of long rallies and close games,” said Murray, the defending champion here.—Kyodo



Andy Murray of Britain reacts after winning a shot against Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland during their men’s singles quarter-finals on match at the Japan Open tennis championships in Tokyo, on 5 October, 2012.—REUTERS

World Bank chief Kim signals changes to come



PAGE 6

Eto’s scores brace for Anzhi amid Europa League upsets



PAGE 14

CBM confirms hearsay about private banks rumours, calls for trust on private banks

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—There are reported cases of rumours about the sphere of private banks recently, leading to public enquiry with worry. With respect to those news, the Central Bank of Myanmar announced that they are mere rumours aired by those with ill will to harm the interests of banks, and

not true; that private banks are operating in line with banking procedures and rules and regulations under the systematic management of the Central Bank of Myanmar and thus, citizens can trust all the private banks.

MNA