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President U Thein Sein felicitates Fijian President

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct— On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Fiji, which falls on 10th October 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Brigadier-General Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, CF, LVO, OBE, MSD, OStJ, President of the Republic of Fiji.

MNA

President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Fijian Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct— On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Fiji, which falls on 10th October 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Commodore Ratu Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, CF, MSD, OStJ, Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji.

MNA

ROK President Mr Lee Myung-bak gives warm welcome to President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct— A ceremony to welcome President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein by President of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Myung-bak took place in the front of President's Residence Blue House in Seoul at 4 pm local time today.

On arrival at Blue House, President U Thein Sein was cordially welcomed by President Mr Lee Myung-bak. After that, the Myanmar President and the ROK President took the salute of the Guard of Honour from the dais while State's band played national anthems of both countries.

After that, both leaders inspected the Guard of Honour and cordially greeted Myanmar and Korean children. The ROK President introduced his welcoming party to the Myanmar President. And the Myanmar President also introduced Myanmar delegation members to the ROK President.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and President of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Myung-bak inspect the Guard of Honour.

MNA



Also present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials from both countries.

Afterwards, President

U Thein Sein signed the visitors' book at Blue House and posed for documentary photo together with the ROK President. President U Thein Sein met the ROK

President.

Also present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thein, U Tin

Naing Thein, UKhin Maung Soe and U Aye Myint, and the Myanmar Ambassador to the ROK. Mr Lee Myung-bak was accompanied by the Minister of Foreign

Affairs and Trade, Minister for Knowledge Economy, the Ambassador of the ROK to Myanmar and high-ranking officials.

MNA

Myanmar, ROK sign MoU on development cooperation



NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met President of the Republic of Korea Mr. Lee Myung-bak at Blue House in Seoul, ROK at 5 pm local time today and held discussions on matters related to mutual benefits.

Also present at the call together with the President were the Union ministers, the chief ministers, deputy ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to ROK and departmental heads. Together with the President of ROK, the minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the minister for Knowledge Economy, the ambassador of the ROK to Myanmar and senior officials attended the meeting.

Next, a signing ceremony followed. Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the ROK signed aid agreement and Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the ROK, MoU on development cooperation in the presence of the two leaders and exchanged notes.—MNA

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of ROK sign aid agreement in the presence of President U Thein Sein and President Mr Lee Myung-bak.—MNA

NATIONAL

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Chairman of NEC Corporation of Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun received a delegation led by Chairman of NEC Corporation Dr Nobuhiro Endo of Japan at Credentials Hall in Presidential Palace, here, at 2 pm today.

Present together with the Vice-President were Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun, Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw and Dr Daw Khin San Yi and officials of Union Government Office and the President Office.

They cordially discussed cooperation in advanced communication technology sectors between Myanmar and Japan and technological assistance to be provided for the XXVII SEA Games.

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Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives a delegation led by Chairman of NEC Corporation Dr Nobuhiro Endo of Japan at Credentials Hall in Presidential Palace.

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More investment in Myanmar discussed



NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received a delegation led by Vice Chairman Mr Masayuki Matsushita of Kansai Economic Federation (Kandeiren) and Panasonic Co., at his office this morning. They held discussion on the matters of swift

commodities flow, trade promotion, payment system practise as international level and inviting more investment in Myanmar.

MNA

41st Myanmar Health Research Congress 7-11 Jan

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—The 41st Myanmar Health Research Congress organized by the Ministry of Health will be held from 7 to 11 January 2013 at the Department of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar) at No 5, Ziwaka Road, Dagon Township, Yangon.

The congress will focus

on health research papers-reading session, poster display session, academic symposia on varieties of important health topics. Pharmaceutical companies, medical equipment and laboratory reagent companies, private healthcare centres (laboratories, hospitals and clinics), both local and

international and all NGOs are also invited to take part in the product exhibition. The last date to submit the abstract of research papers is fixed on 26 October 2012 and the complete papers, 30 November 2012.

MNA

Barge hits pier of bridge

BAGO, 9 Oct—A barge namely Than-296 carrying 323 logs weighing 494.032 tons pushed by Apex-II 13326 driven by Nyunt Oo hit pier RP 6 of Ayeyawady Bridge (Nawade) in Padaung Township at 6.45 am on 29 September.

According to the complaint of the Staff Officer of Directorate of Marine Administration, Padaung Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Nyunt Oo under section 280 of Criminal Law.—Kyemon

Myanma Alin

Danger of narcotic drugs disseminated

MOMAUK, 9 Oct—A talk on danger of narcotic drugs was held at the Dhammayon of Monastery in Manpon Village of Momauk Township on 25 September morning.

Before the talk, Township Administrator U Nyan Hlaing made a speech. Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Thein Aung gave talks on

danger of narcotic drug and psychotropic substances.

Township Law Officer U Thaug Tun disseminated knowledge about narcotic drug law and Township Medical Officer Dr Zaw Win Naing facts about drugs and health. On 21 September morning, a similar talk was held in Momauk Township.

Duty assigned to Township GAD officers

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—When the State is trying to shape up good governance and clean government, it is realized that the existing laws, laws and rules and regulations relating to respective works are important to

generate good staff who abide by the laws, knowing real situations, said Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko in meeting with officers who would have assigned township officers (assistant director) of GAD at the

Ministry of Home Affairs at 12 noon today.

The Union minister stressed the staff to carry out their tasks in accordance with rule of law when they are serving the interests of nation and its people.

MNA

Certificate for ASEAN Economic Studies (CAES) course opens

YANGON, 9 Oct—“Certificate for ASEAN Economic Studies (CAES) course, would help trainees get the knowledge on ASEAN, ASEAN Free Trade Area and ASEAN Economic Community,” said Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, at opening ceremony of CAES course, at Nilar Yatu Hall of Yangon Institute of Economics (YIE) this morning.

After that, Pro-Reactor Dr Lay Kyi of YIE said that the trainees are warmly welcomed as they would have to participate in the emergence of ASEAN Free Trade Area and ASEAN Economic Community in 2015.



Union Minister for NPED Dr Kan Zaw speaking at opening of Certificate for ASEAN Economic Studies (CAES) course.—MNA

A total of 100 trainees are attending the three-month course, jointly conducted by Ministry of

National Planning and Economic Development and YIE.

MNA

District News

WUNDWIN, 9 Oct—A pack of playing cards was arrested in Hsongon Village of Wundwin Township on 2 October.

IP Aung Soe Tint of Wundwin Police Station and party suddenly searched the house of U Maung Than, 44 in Hsongon Village and seized three packs of playing cards and gambling moneys.

Packs of playing cards arrested in Wundwin Township

The squad arrested Maung Than, 44 of Hsongon Village, Aung Lwin, 35 of Kokkabin Village, Zaw Myo Aung, 24 of Hsongon Village, Thein Maung, 25 of Hsongon Village, Myint Maung, 45 of Hsongon Village, Myo Khin, 30 of Ywethee Village, Ko Gyi (a) Tun Kyaing, 26 of Hsongon Village, Naing Win

(a) Bo Bo of Ywethee Village together with seven motorcycles, two bicycles and K 142,250 of gambling money.

Wundwin Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against them under section 13(a) and 14(a) of Gambling Law.

Kyemon

WORLD



Locals enjoy a mid morning stroll in the sun through Dalton-in-Furness in northwestern England, where relatives of US presidential candidate Mitt Romney were born and bred in the 18th and 19th Century, on 26 Sept, 2012. REUTERS

Romney's English roots surprise cousins left behind

US

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, 9 Oct— Mitt Romney's fight to become America's next president has the backing of one enthusiastic group of supporters, although they don't actually have a vote: his relatives in England.

Few associate the Republican candidate with Britain but it was in England's industrial northwest that his ancestors lived for generations and converted to Mormonism before leaving for the United States in 1841 in search of the promised land.

It was a bold escape for a family of lowly carpenters.

By sailing for the New World they took a step that eventually brought the Romney clan to the fore of American politics.

But some of them stayed and their descendants still live along Britain's rainy western coast—a world away from the intrigue and glamour of Washington.

One is a 69-year-old English widow who discovered just a few weeks ago that she is a distant cousin of the former governor of Massachusetts.

"It's all come out of the blue," Jennie Iveson told Reuters in her modest home

in Barrow-in-Furness, a shipyard town once at the heart of Britain's industrial revolution. "It's a surprise really. Quite a surprise. Big surprise."

Iveson's link to Romney came to light when her inquisitive grandson-in-law began tracing back their family history by delving into archives in their home county of Lancashire.

Records show that Iveson is Mitt Romney's fourth cousin—they share a great-great-grandfather, George Romney, who died in 1859.—Reuters

Berlusconi may not run in 2013 election

Italy

ROME, 9 Oct—Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi may drop plans to stand in next year's election if it were necessary to allow the formation of a broad alliance with centrist parties, the secretary of his People of Freedom (PDL) party said on Monday. The comment followed weeks of speculation that Berlusconi may run as candidate to lead the centre-right in elections expected in April. The 76-year-old has hinted that he would be ready to stand.

"We intend to make every effort to unite a large moderate area as an alternative to the left," the PDL's Angelino Alfano told a news conference with other party leaders.

He invited Pier Ferdinando Casini, leader of the centrist UDC party

with whom the PDL has cooperated in the past, to join a new moderate alliance.

"If, as things appear to be going, Silvio Berlusconi does not stand as a candidate himself to favour the unification of the moderate area, you have the right, the possibility, the duty to play a role in rebuilding the moderate area," he told Casini.

Senior PDL officials have pressed Berlusconi to announce his intentions clearly but he has yet to confirm whether he will run for prime minister or play a behind-the-scenes role leading his party. Opinion polls show the PDL and its allies trailing the centre-left Democratic Party, which intends to hold a primary vote in November to choose its candidate for the election.

However Casini's reaction to the implied invitation to an alliance by

Alfano was cautious.

"I think everyone who has any experience of Berlusconi's turnarounds has a duty to be cautious with



their judgements at a moment like this and neither try to get out of their duty nor allow themselves to be tricked into anything," he said. Prime Minister Mario Monti, an economist brought in last year to run an emergency government of technocrats,

Iran scorns Israeli air defences, complains of cyber attack

Iran

DUBAI, 9 Oct—Iran derided Israel's air defences as feeble on Monday, citing a drone incursion into its arch-foe's airspace, but did not say it had sent the aircraft shot down by the Israelis at the weekend.

It also accused Israel and others of masterminding what it said was a cyber attack on communication networks on Iranian offshore oil and gas platforms in the past few weeks.

With tension high over Iran's disputed nuclear programme and Israeli threats to attack it, the remarks by Iranian officials pointed to possible aspects of a shadow war waged by the two adversaries and perhaps by Israel's Western allies, whose sanctions have battered the Iranian economy and currency.

Jamaluddin Aberoumand, deputy coordinator for Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, said the drone intrusion showed that Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile

defence system "does not work and lacks the necessary capacity", Fars news agency reported.

The Israeli air force shot down a drone on Saturday after it crossed into southern Israel, the military said, but it remained unclear where the aircraft had come from.

Iron Dome is designed to shoot down short-range guerrilla rockets, not slow-flying planes such as drones.

The Israeli military said the drone was first spotted above the Mediterranean near

the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip to the west of Israel and shot down by a fighter plane over Israeli territory.

Israeli parliament member and former military spokesman Miri Regev described it as "Iranian drone launched by Hezbollah", the Lebanese Shi'ite group that fought a war with Israel in 2006.

Israeli defence officials have not confirmed this. Hezbollah has sent a drone into Israeli airspace at least once previously.—Reuters



An Iron Dome launcher fires an interceptor rocket near the southern city of Ashdod on 11 March, 2012.—REUTERS

Coast Guard missions in doubt as aging ships wear out

US

BALTIMORE, 9 Oct—The US Coast Guard is on the front lines of national security, but it struggles to complete its missions with one of the world's oldest maritime fleets and a multibillion dollar replacement programme years behind schedule.

The cash-strapped service operates with frequent breakdowns and obsolete gear in what one US congressman has called a "death spiral," of too few ships and too many missions. If forced to give up some of its many jobs patrolling US waters, that could mean more cocaine and illegal immigrants entering the United States, and fewer ships protecting boaters and fisheries and cleaning up oil spills, experts said.

More money from Congress to bring its \$29 billion replacement programme up

to date is unlikely, given the belt-tightening US budgetary environment.

"If you have limited resources for operations or for capital assets, something has to give," US Representative John Mica, a Florida Republican and chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, told Reuters. Signs of out-of-date gear were clear aboard the 270-foot (82-metre) cutter Tahoma, now hauled out of the water to undergo an 11-month makeover at Baltimore's Coast Guard yard.

A yard inspector, Lieutenant Commander Gary Hillman, scrambled to reach a control room through an engine space cluttered by snaking hoses and cables and ringing to the sound of welding.

Reuters



Crewmembers aboard the US Coast Guard Cutter Tahoma stand on the bow as the cutter enters port at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine in this 26 Feb, 2010 handout photo supplied by the US Coast Guard.—REUTERS

Israel deploys Patriot missiles in Haifa after drone breaches airspace

Israel

JERUSALEM, 9 Oct— A Patriot surface-to-air missile battery was deployed in the northern Israeli City of Haifa on Monday, two days after an unmanned aircraft breached Israeli airspace from the Mediterranean, local media reported.

Israel Defence Forces officials were quoted by

Ha'aretz daily as saying that the deployment was not an emergency measure, and such systems are deployed to the area from time to time.

Israel Defence Forces (IDF) officials also refused to comment on the possible connection between the drone, which was intercepted on Saturday, and the Patriot

missile system deployed to Haifa, according to the newspaper.

The deployment comes shortly before the beginning of a joint comprehensive drill between the IDF and United States Military commands, which has been called AC12. The drill entails testing of the active defence capabilities of

the two military organizations.

The Israeli air force shot down an unidentified aerial vehicle that penetrated Israel's airspace on Saturday.

The IDF said that the drone arrived in Israel from the west after flying over the Mediterranean and the Gaza Strip.

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

UK, Japan scientists win Nobel for adult stem cell discovery

Science



Kyoto University Professor Shinya Yamanaka (L) and John Gurdon of the Gurdon Institute in Cambridge are seen at a symposium on induced pluripotent stem cell in Tokyo, in this photo taken by Kyodo on April 2008. —REUTERS

STOCKHOLM, 9 Oct— Scientists from Britain and Japan shared a Nobel Prize on Monday for the discovery that adult cells can be transformed back into embryo-like stem cells that may one day regrow tissue in damaged brains, hearts or other organs.

John Gurdon, 79, of the Gurdon Institute in Cambridge, Britain and

Shinya Yamanaka, 50, of Kyoto University in Japan, discovered ways to create tissue that would act like embryonic cells, without the need to collect the cells from embryos.

They share the \$1.2 million Nobel Prize for Medicine, for work Gurdon began 50 years ago and Yamanaka capped with a 2006 experiment that transformed

the field of “regenerative medicine” — the search for ways to cure disease by growing healthy tissue.

“These groundbreaking discoveries have completely changed our view of the development and specialization of cells,” the Nobel Assembly at Stockholm’s Karolinska Institute said.

All of the body starts as stem cells, before developing into tissue like skin, blood, nerves, muscle and bone. The big hope is that stem cells can grow to replace damaged tissue in cases from spinal cord injuries to Parkinson’s disease.

Scientists once thought it was impossible to turn adult tissue back into stem cells. That meant new stem cells could only be created by taking them from embryos, which raised ethical objections that led to research bans in some countries.

As far back as 1962 Gurdon became the first scientist to clone an animal,

making a healthy tadpole from the egg of a frog with DNA from another tadpole’s intestinal cell. That showed that developed cells carry the information to make every cell in the body — decades before other scientists made world headlines by cloning the first mammal from adult DNA, Dolly the sheep.

More than 40 years later, Yamanaka produced mouse stem cells from adult mouse skin cells by inserting a small number of genes. His breakthrough effectively showed that the development that takes place in adult tissue could be reversed, turning adult tissue back into cells that behave like embryos.

Stem cells created from adult tissue are known as “induced pluripotency stem cells”, or iPS cells. Because patients may one day be treated with stem cells from their own tissue, their bodies might be less likely to reject them.

Reuters

US lawmakers seek to block China Huawei, ZTE US inroads

Tech

WASHINGTON, 9 Oct—US telecommunications operators should not do business with China’s top network equipment makers because potential Chinese state influence on the companies poses a security threat, the US House of Representatives Intelligence Committee said in a report on Monday.

The report follows an 11-month investigation by the committee into Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and its smaller rival, ZTE Corp.

The companies have been fighting an uphill battle to overcome US lawmakers’ suspicions and expand in the United States after becoming key players in the worldwide market.

The House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan

concerns are bound to set back the companies’ US prospects and may also lead to new strains in trade ties between the United States and China, the world’s two biggest economies.

Committee Chairman Mike Rogers, at a Press conference to release the report, said companies that had used Huawei equipment had reported “numerous allegations” of unexpected behavior, including routers supposedly sending large data packs to China late at night.

The panel cited what it called long-term security risks supposedly linked with the companies’ equipment and services.

It did not provide any hard evidence to back up its concerns, at least not in the

unclassified version of the report.

Rogers, a Michigan Republican who is a former FBI agent, said lawmakers’ concerns had been heightened by what he and the panel’s top Democrat, CA Ruppertsberger of Maryland, described as the companies’ lack of full cooperation with the investigation.

If the committee’s warnings about doing business with Huawei and ZTE prompt the Chinese government to get out of the business of cyber espionage, a growing US concern, “then that’s great,” he added.

The committee recommended that the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, an inter-agency group that evaluates the

national security risks of foreign investments, should block any deals involving Huawei or ZTE.

Government contractors and private sector companies should seek other vendors for their network equipment, the panel said.

Rogers, responding to a question at the press conference, stopped short of urging a US boycott of mobile phones and other handheld devices made by Huawei and ZTE.

Reuters

Tech China says telco gear makers operate according to market rules

BEIJING, 9 Oct—China’s foreign ministry said on Monday that Chinese telecoms companies operate according to market rules, urging the United States to “set aside prejudices” when it came to Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp.

“Chinese telecoms companies have been developing their international business based on market economy principles.

Their investment in the United States embodies the mutually beneficial nature of Sino-American economic and trade relations,” said ministry spokesman Hong Lei.

China’s top telecommunications gear makers should be kept from the US market because they cannot be trusted to dodge Chinese state influence and thus pose a security threat, the US House of

Hacker group says attacks Greek official websites Tech

ATHENS, 9 Oct— The activist hacker group Anonymous said it had taken down a number of Greek government websites on Monday, on the eve of a visit by German Chancellor Angela Merkel that is likely to be met by angry protests. Several government websites appeared to go down briefly late on Monday, including those of the Citizens Protection Ministry, the police and the Ministry of Justice. A message appeared saying: “The page cannot be found”.

Police could not confirm who was responsible for the attack, which Anonymous claimed in a series of Tweets on the social media site Twitter.

In a message posted on YouTube, the group criticized the huge security operation that police plan for Tuesday to contain protests against Merkel, comparing the government to the military junta that ruled Greece from 1967 to 1974. Trade unions and opposition political parties have called for mass protests to greet the German chancellor, whom many Greeks accuse of unfairly forcing them down the path of painful austerity and driving the country even deeper into recession.

Reuters

SpaceX rocket blasts off Space for space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 9 Oct— An unmanned, privately owned Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon cargo capsule blasted off from Cape Canaveral on Sunday on a mission to restore a US supply line to the International Space Station after the retirement of the space shuttle.

Powered by nine oxygen and kerosene-burning engines, the 157-foot (48-metre) tall rocket, built by Space Exploration Technologies, lifted off from its seaside launch pad at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station at 8:35 pm EDT.

“This was a critical event for NASA and the nation tonight,” said NASA Administrator Charles Bolden. “Just over a year after the retirement of the space shuttle, we have returned space station cargo-resupply missions to US soil.”

The Falcon booster, flying for the fourth time, streaked through balmy,



The SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifts off from Space Launch Complex 40 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 7 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

partly cloudy skies as it headed east over the Atlantic Ocean toward the station’s orbit, some 250 miles above Earth.

Despite a problem with one engine during the 10-minute climb to orbit, the capsule was delivered exactly where it was intended to go, company president Gwynne Shotwell told reporters.

Reuters



A ZTE flag flutters in front of the Chinese national flag outside its headquarters in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province on 17 April, 2012.

REUTERS

Representatives’ Intelligence Committee leaders said in a draft of a report to be released later on Monday.

Reuters

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers (R-MI) (L) and Rep Dutch Ruppertsberger (D-MD) hold a news conference to release a report on ‘national security threats posed by Chinese telecommunications companies Huawei and ZTE’ on Capitol Hill in Washington on 8 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Asian shares rise, growth worries cap *Business*

TOKYO, 9 Oct— Asian shares rose on Tuesday but were capped by concerns over global growth prospects, especially in the world's second-biggest economy China, and expected weak US corporate earnings.

The International Monetary Fund cut its global growth forecast on Tuesday to a 3.3 percent expansion for 2012, down from its July estimate of 3.5 percent, making it the slowest year of growth since 2009. It warned US and European policy-

makers that failure to fix their economic ills would prolong the slump.

The IMF also said on Tuesday that China's economic growth is expected to weaken to 7.8 percent this year, warning of risks to emerging Asia if the euro zone crisis worsens and the United States does not avoid its "fiscal cliff".

The MSCI index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan added 0.6 percent. Australian shares rose 0.5 percent, climbing to a fresh 14-month

high, as a 6 percent jump in iron ore prices lifted miners and helped offset concerns about global economic growth.

However, Tokyo's Nikkei stock average resumed trading after a holiday on Monday with a 0.3 percent drop. Japanese corporate earnings season begins later in the month. "Asian equities markets are feeling the positive effects from the recent global easing, prompting investors to buy the region's stocks which have remained undervalued," said Hirokazu Yuihama, a senior strategist at Daiwa Securities.

The euro inched up 0.1 percent to \$1.2977, off its two-week peak of \$1.3072 reached on Friday. The risk-sensitive and commodity-related Australian dollar gained 0.5 percent to \$1.0229, after hitting a three-month low of \$1.0149 on Monday.

Reuters



A man clicks his nails as he looks at an electronic board displaying share prices outside a brokerage in Tokyo on 20 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Mom's fish, mercury intake tied to kids' ADHD risk *Health*

NEW YORK, 9 Oct— Children's risk of developing attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) later on in life may be tied to how much fish their mothers ate while pregnant, according to a new study.

Researchers found that eating at least two servings of fish per week was linked to about a 60 percent lower risk of kids developing certain ADHD-like symptoms. However, elevated mercury levels, which can come from eating more fish, were tied to a higher risk of developing the symptoms, such as hyperactivity, impulsiveness and inattentiveness.

While the study cannot prove cause and effect and did not use a formal diagnosis of ADHD, it may offer insights into a condition that's estimated to impact one in 10 children in the United States, researchers say.

"The really important message is to eat fish. Just stay away from mercury containing fish, because these protective effects are pretty important," said Sharon Sagiv, the study's lead author from the Boston University School of Public Health in Massachusetts. Past studies looking at the link between mercury and ADHD have produced conflicting results, which is

why Sagiv and her fellow researchers, from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, decided to look at this issue. For the new study, the researchers followed 788 children who were born near New Bedford, Massachusetts, between 1993 and 1998.

The researchers used hair samples taken from the mothers right after delivery to test their mercury levels, and food diaries to see how much fish they ate.

Then, once the children were about 8 years old, the researchers asked their teachers to evaluate the kids' behaviours to see how many exhibited ADHD-like symptoms.

After taking all of the information into account, the researchers found 1 microgram of mercury per gram of a mother's hair — about eight times the average levels found in similar women's hair in another analysis — was tied to about a 60 percent increase in the risk of their child exhibiting ADHD-like behaviours.

The researchers saw no link below 1 microgram of mercury per gram of a mother's hair.

She added that the negative effects from lower levels of mercury may be canceled out by the benefits from eating fish.

Reuters

Meningitis-linked steroid shots given to 13,000 US patients *Health*

NASHVILLE, 9 Oct— Tennessee About 13,000 people in 23 states may have received steroid injections linked to a rare fungal meningitis outbreak that has killed eight people, but far fewer are likely to contract the disease, the Centres for Disease Control said on Monday.

It was the first time the CDC has given an estimate of the number of patients potentially affected, having previously said only that it could be in the thousands. So far, 105 cases of the rare form of meningitis have been confirmed in nine states. In worst-hit Tennessee another person has died, bringing the national death toll to eight, the CDC and Tennessee state authorities said on Monday. The Saint Thomas Outpatient Neurosurgery

Centre in Nashville received about 2,000 of the 17,676 vials of potentially tainted steroid, more than any other facility in the country, said Tennessee Health Commissioner Dr John Dreyzehner. Dealing with patients who received the injections has been an "horrific experience" in many ways, said Dr Robert Latham, director of the Infectious Diseases Programme at Saint Thomas.

"We've seen upwards of 40 to 50 patients a day since last Monday through the emergency room that have had to be extensively evaluated," he said. In Ohio, health officials said they were mobilizing community resources, including sheriff's offices, to check on patients who have received the injections.

Reuters



Pharmaceutical compounding company New England Compounding Centre (NECC), a producer of the steroid methylprednisolone acetate, is seen in Framingham, Massachusetts on 8 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS



WORLD SIGHT DAY



11 October, Thursday

"Countdown to 2020"

AEG auction starts; Anschutz seeks bids in \$10 billion range *Business*

NEW YORK, 9 Oct— Billionaire Phil Anschutz has kicked off the auction of his Anschutz Entertainment Group, with an expectation that the sports and entertainment giant should draw bids in the \$10 billion range, higher than previously believed, according to sources familiar with the situation.

The initial, 25-page AEG information

memorandum that describes the business but has no financial information was expected to go to "dozens" of potential buyers on Monday, the sources said.

The initial group of recipients is expected to include rich individuals, rivals, sovereign wealth funds, real estate firms, and

Business

bidders includes trade buyers such as Liberty Media Corp investment companies such as Guggenheim Partners LLC; private equity firms such as Thomas H Lee Partners LP, Bain Capital LLC and Colony Capital LLC; and rich individuals such as Los



The logo of Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG), a subsidiary of the Anschutz Company, is seen in Los Angeles, California on 9 Feb, 2011.—REUTERS

private equity firms, they said. Anschutz is likely to start signing non-disclosure agreements and send out the books with financial details by the end of the month, the sources said.

The list of potential

Angeles biotech billionaire Patrick Soon-Shiong, sources have previously said. Sources close to potential buyers had said last month that the company could fetch between \$6 billion and \$8 billion in a sale.—Reuters

Australian business confidence improves in September *Business*

SYDNEY, 9 Oct— Australian business confidence improved in September but remains subdued, according to a business survey released on Tuesday by National Australia Bank (NAB).

The latest NAB Monthly Business Survey showed the business confidence index, a key barometer of sentiment in the business, rose to zero in September from minus three points in August.

NAB said in a statement on Tuesday that major stimulus announcement by the US Federal Reserve (Fed) and the European Central Bank (ECB) had helped lift Australian business confidence.

However, NAB said, confidence remained well below its long-term average, due to ongoing concerns about the value of the Australian dollar and falling commodity prices.

"Confidence is now six points below the long-run average and has been subdued relative to the average for more than a year," NAB said.

The NAB business survey also found the business conditions index fell to minus three points in September, down from zero the month before and well below the long run average of one.

The bank said declines was broad-based, with heavy falls for wholesale, retail and transport, and utilities in the month.—Xinhua

WORLD**NYPD officer who shot unarmed motorist 'eager' to tell his story**

NEW YORK, 9 Oct—The New York police detective who fatally shot an unarmed motorist last week is “more than eager” to tell his side of the story to any investigating authorities, his attorney said on Monday after receiving word the city’s police commissioner called for a grand jury probe of the incident.

New York Detective Hassan Hamdy’s “pulling the trigger did not occur in a bubble,” said attorney Philip

Karasyk. “Way before that happened, the driver was acting in such a manner as to continuously raise the level of threat” to the police, he said.

The police said Hamdy shot Noel Polanco, 22, just after 5 am on 4 October after pulling the US Army reservist over for erratic driving on a Queens highway. Karasyk said his client maintains that Polanco ignored police orders to put his hands in the air and instead reached down

with both hands to the car’s floorboard.

An NYPD statement released last week is consistent with Karasyk’s description of the lead-up to the shooting.

But witness Diane DeFerrari, 37, a bartender whom Polanco was driving home from her work at a Queens nightclub, said Polanco’s hands never left the wheel, according to attorney Sanford Rubenstein, who is also representing Polanco’s

mother. The conflicting accounts have led New York Police Commissioner Ray Kelly to call for a grand jury investigation into the shooting, *The New York Post* reported on Monday.

The shooting “will require what I believe to be a grand jury investigation to determine precisely what happened there,” Kelly told the paper. An NYPD spokesman did not respond to requests for comment on Kelly’s remarks. —Reuters



A Nord Stream pipeline operator stands on a platform before the opening ceremony of the North Stream second gas link in Portovaya bay, some 60 kilometres from the town of Vyborg in northwestern Russia, on 8 Oct, 2012. Nord Stream’s 1,224-kilometre Line Two started operating at full capacity on Monday. Line One with an annual capacity of 27.5 billion cubic metres has been working since November 2011.—XINHUA

Mexico arrests suspected cartel leader in US jet skier case

MEXICO CITY, 9 Oct—Mexican officials said on Monday they had arrested a suspected drug cartel leader believed responsible for the murders in 2010 of dozens of migrants and an American

who was killed as he jet skied on a lake on the Texas-Mexico border.

Mexican marines arrested Salvador Alfonso Martinez Escobedo, known as “Squirrel,” on Saturday

evening in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, across the border from Laredo, Texas, after a car chase and a shootout earlier in the day, Mexico’s presidency said in a news release.

The driver was armed with a rifle and had a pistol tucked into his waistband when he was ordered by troops to surrender after the chase, authorities said. He subsequently identified himself as Martinez, who authorities said is the suspected head of the Zetas cartel in Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila states, all of which border Texas.

Mexican authorities said Martinez was the mastermind of the murders of 72 migrants from Central and South America in San Fernando, Tamaulipas, in August 2010, in the one of the worst single acts of cartel violence in Mexico.

In addition, he is a suspect

in the murder of a Tamaulipas police commander who was found beheaded as he was investigating the high-profile death of jet skier David Hartley. Hartley and his wife, Tiffany Hartley, of the Denver area, were riding jet skis across Falcon Lake to photograph the ruins of a church, Tiffany Hartley told US authorities.

She reported that they were approached by men in two or three boats who opened fire as the couple attempted to speed away and that her husband was shot twice before going under the water. His body has never been recovered. The US-Mexico border bisects Falcon Lake, and the Hartleys were on the Mexican side of the lake when they were shot. The murder drew widespread attention in the United States, especially in Texas.—Reuters

US citizen on al-Qaeda wanted list arrested by Yemeni security forces

ADEN, 9 Oct—An American who is believed to be linked to the al-Qaeda group was arrested by the Yemeni security forces in the country’s restive southeastern Province of Shabwa on Monday, a police officer told *Xinhua*.

A patrol of the police forces detained the American who appeared on a wanted blacklist by the country’s security authorities in downtown Ataq, the provincial capital of Shabwa, and transferred him with a military helicopter to the capital Sanaa, the police officer said on condition of anonymity.

The captured US national was a Muslim and had three passports in his possession — two American and one German, according to the

officer. “The US citizen was arrested while having a meal in a hotel, but his entry into Shabwa Province, was unclear and suspicious,” the officer said.

The security authorities suspected the American might have links with terrorists in Shabwa, the ancestral homeland of the slain US-Yemeni cleric Anwar Al-Awlaki, al-Qaeda’s most dangerous English-speaking propagandist in Yemen, the source added.

The Yemeni government troops have launched an intensive military campaign with the support of the United States and Yemen’s oil-rich neighbour Saudi Arabia to uproot the al-Qaeda militants in the southern regions.

Xinhua



Suspect Salvador Alfonso Martinez Escobedo (C) also known as “El Ardilla” (The Squirrel) is presented along with other suspects and confiscated weaponry to the media by Mexican marines at the Attorney General’s headquarters in Mexico City on 8 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Venezuela, China to remain close after presidential election

CARACAS, 9 Oct—Venezuela’s relationship with China would remain close after Sunday’s presidential election, an analyst at the Americas Council said.

“I don’t see much change in Venezuela’s relations with China no matter who wins,” Eric Farnsworth told *Xinhua*. “This is a commercial relationship and Venezuela needs markets.”

The interview was conducted before latest news coming out that President Hugo Chavez has won the election carrying 54 percent of the votes with 90 percent of the ballots counted.

“Chavez remains popular with many Venezuelans because he has transparently transferred income from oil exports to the lower classes,” Farnsworth said.

In recent years Chavez

had overcome a series of formidable challenges, including a coup attempt in April 2002, a general strike later that year and a referendum on his rule in 2004. But after all of those, he was re-elected in 2006. Some 19 million Venezuelans went to the polls on Sunday while 100,000 others voted overseas.

Xinhua

IMF cuts China, India, emerging Asia growth forecasts

WASHINGTON, 9 Oct—China’s economic growth is expected to weaken to 7.8 percent this year, the International Monetary Fund said on Tuesday as it warned of risks to emerging Asia if the euro zone crisis worsens and the United States does not avoid its “fiscal cliff”.

However, the IMF said several Asian countries had fiscal room to support their economies if needed and it reiterated a long-standing view that some regional countries, including China, have weaker currencies than desirable.

The IMF sharply lowered its forecasts for India and predicted “less buoyant” growth in the near- and medium-term for Asia as a whole, cautioning any cool down in China’s investment surge will add to the drag on regional and German manufacturers. “The balance of risks to the near-term growth outlook is tilted to the downside,” the Fund said in its semi-annual World Economic Outlook. It predicted China’s economy, the world’s second-biggest, will “soft land” by growing 7.8 percent this year and 8.2 percent next year, boosted by interest rate cuts in June and July. Beijing has targeted growth of 7.5 percent this year.—Reuters

Turkish president says “worst case” unfolding in Syria

Smoke rises after a mortar bomb fired from Syria landed in Turkish soil on the Turkish-Syrian border in southern Hatay Province on 8 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

GUVECCI, 9 Oct—Turkish President Abdullah Gul said on Monday the “worst-case scenarios” were now playing out in Syria and Turkey would do everything necessary to protect itself, as its army fired back for a sixth day after a shell from Syria flew over the border.

Gul said the violence in Turkey’s southern neighbour, where a revolt against President Bashar al-

Assad has evolved into a civil war that threatens to draw in regional powers, could not go on indefinitely and Assad’s fall was inevitable.

“The worst-case scenarios are taking place right now in Syria ... Our government is in constant consultation with the Turkish military. Whatever is needed is being done immediately as you see, and it will continue to be done,” Gul said.

“There will be a change, a transition sooner or later ... It is a must for the international community to take effective action before Syria turns into a bigger wreck and further blood is shed, that is our main wish,” he told reporters in Ankara.

Turkey’s armed forces have bolstered their presence along the 900-km (560-mile) border with Syria in recent days and have been responding in kind to gunfire and shelling spilling across from the south, where Assad’s forces have been battling rebels who control swathes of territory.

Turkey’s Chief of Staff, General Necdet Ozel, travelled to the southern city of Adana to inspect the region patrolled by Turkey’s 2nd Army, which protects the border with Syria, the military said on its website.

Reuters

NATIONAL

In an effort to bring about country's economic...

(from page 16)

have the rights to export Myanmar goods to US and enjoy GSP in importing goods to EU member countries. At the same time, foreign investments start flowing into the country due to the lifting of economic sanctions. Thanks to it, Myanmar citizens would enjoy job opportunities and socio-economic development. One reason why Myanmar has lagged behind in the development is due to the long-lasting armed conflicts that have prevailed since Myanmar regained its Independence. Myanmar faces least development due to the disunity. Myanmar government is doing its utmost for ensuring political peace and stability and the end of armed conflicts.

The huge foreign investments would flow into the country when the country has peace and stability. And the country would see a lot of factories and workshops from which technology transfer would be got. To become a developed country, people should work together with knowledge and diligence. He continued to say that Myanmar citizens are to keep in touch with the development of those countries in which they reside, at a time when they are in other foreign countries.



President U Thein Sein meets with staff from Myanmar Embassy and Myanmar students.—MNA

After that, the President presented gifts to the Ambassador, the military attaché, embassy staff and their families and Myanmar students. Then, the President and

party went sightseeing in Han River passing through Seoul on board the private vessel and enjoyed a dinner hosted by Ambassador U Nyunt Hlaing.—MNA

Singaporean delegation visits farmer's educative plantations

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing conducted a Singaporean delegation led by Senior Minister of State Mr Lee Yi Shyan of Singapore and Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua round the thriving farmer's educative plantations in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

After that, the delegation paid a call on Union Minister U Myint Hlaing, Deputy Ministers U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw and departmental heads, at the Minister's office.

At the call, both sides had a cordial discussion on technical cooperation in agriculture sector, cooperation in production



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Singaporean delegation observing Palethwe hybrid paddy plantations.—MNA

and export of value-added farm produces and farmer-centered programme for promoting the socio-economic status of rural people.—MNA

Union Foreign Minister felicitates Fijian Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Fiji, which falls on 10th October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Hon Ratu Inoke Kubuabola, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Fiji.—MNA

Brief News

Union Culture Minister meets curators of museums

Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu inspected museums in Taunggyi and Nyaungshwe in Shan State on 6 October and met staff.

Auditor-General of the Union meets State/Region Auditors-General

Auditor-General of the Union U Thein Htaik gave instructions on exact inspection and checking and exercising thrifty to officials at coordination meeting between Office of the Auditor-General of the Union and Region and State Auditor-General's Offices on 8 October morning.

Development of industrial sector discussed

The Mon State industrial development workshop kicked off at the hall of the state in Mawlamyine on 6 October, with an address by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint.

Coord meeting on ASEAN chess sport held

The coordination meeting for successfully holding of ASEAN Chess Games 2012-Pre SEA Games 2013 Event was held at Central Hotel in Yangon from 22 to 28 September, with a speech by Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik.

Stake driven for school building

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and officials drove stake for construction of new building at Basic Education Middle School in Natlu Hteikpan Ward in Monywa on 4 October and attended the cash donation for the construction of new buildings.

Fire at Padaukpin oil field leaves one injured

THAYET, 9 Oct—A fire broke out at the well of Shweyathi Co in Padaukpin oil field in Padaukpin Village of Thayet Township, Magway Region, at 11.30 pm on 5 October.

While crude oil was drawn out from the well, sparks of engine caused fire by combining with gas in the air. Eight oil wells, oil well equipment and utensils, engine parts, crude oil from the tank were lost in the fire. Moreover, oil well worker Min Naung, 28, son of U Pi Tel of Kanasogon Village in Wakema Township was injured at both legs and hands.

Myanma Alin



Multiplier course on farmland and land management lectured

KYAUKSE, 9 Oct—Settlement and Land Records Department of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation opened the multiplier course for

farmland law, and vacant, virgin and fallow land management law and rules at Myinsai Hall in Kyaukse on 7 October morning.

The deputy commissioner of Kyaukse District General Administration Department made a speech. Head of Mandalay Region SLRD U Aye Ko explained the purpose of conducting the training course.

Head of Kyaukse District SLRD U Zaw Lwin Oo lectured matters related to farmland law, and vacant, virgin and fallow land management law and rules.

Myanma Alin

District News

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 10 October, 2012

For every woman and every child

The launch of the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children in March 2012 is a major milestone in the push to ensure the success of the Every Woman Every Child movement. It is now two years since the movement was launched at the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Summit. Its agenda — to save the lives of 16 million women and children by 2015 — is ambitious, but achievable.

Maternal and child health are serious issues that have to be taken seriously. It is not acceptable, in this day and age, that pregnancy, childbirth and childhood continue to be tantamount to a death threat for so many.

Too often, affordable, effective medicines and simple health supplies do not reach the women and children who need them. Some of the common barriers to access include the lack of affordable products, lack of formulations safe for children, weak supply chains, inadequate regulatory capacity at country level to protect people from sub-standard or counterfeit products that can cause harm, and lack of awareness of how, why and when to use these commodities.

This Every Woman Every Child movement is about people, and the determination is to ensure that policies and committed guidance account for lives saved, not count lives that could have been saved.

As Myanmar has already adopted the people-centred approach, the Ministry of Health and related government bodies will find more areas to save the lives of women and children in cooperation with UN agencies including UNFPA, that is increasing access to and use of quality maternal and newborn health services, and INGOs apart from our own people and domestic organizations.

No child should die of preventable causes; no woman should die giving life: this is within our reach and it is in our hands.

Tobacco Kills

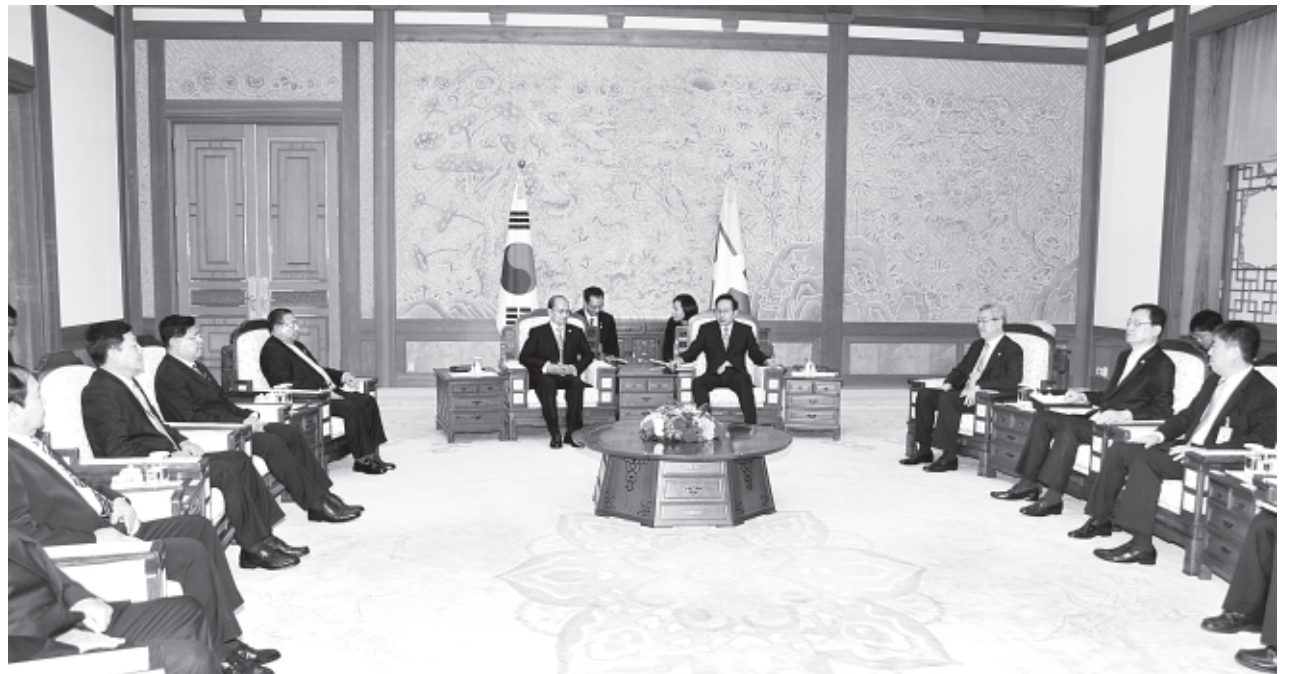
The actor is...and...



Cartoon Maung Maung Lay

Hey! End the call! It would eat up your phone top-up! Recall me with the office phone.

NATIONAL



President U Thein Sein holds talks with Korean President Mr Lee Myung-bak. (News on page 1)—MNA

Judicial reform to be made in real time for ensuring...

(from page 16)

economic growth. Having economic sectors with small investments when the country possesses good prospects for development has become advantages for the future of the national economy. With the aim of rejuvenating its image in international community, Myanmar is trying to create a favorable economic environment.

He said his government understood that Rule of Law is the basis for sustainability of favorable economic environment. Judiciary reform would be made in real time

for ensuring Rule of Law.

He said investments mainly in labour-intensive manufacturing and agriculture sector and infrastructural development that could create rapidly job opportunities for the grassroots are needed. Investment in private sector and changes in government policy are moving towards, he added.

Foreign investments not only contribute to economic development in Myanmar but also assist in democratization and internal peace processes.

The President said he warmly welcomed investments of the Republic of Korea that would be mutually beneficial for the countries and for the peoples, enhancing friendly relations between the two countries.

Next, the President cordially greeted those present and viewed round the booth on activities of KOTRA.

MNA

Cooperation in SMEs to serve interests...

(from page 16)

entrepreneurs who are in touch with the international community.

He hoped for the help of KBIZ extended to small and medium enterprises of Myanmar to get ready themselves to tap opportunities and tackle challenges stemmed from foreign investments that



President U Thein Sein lays wreath at National Cemetery in Seoul.

MNA

would be made in Myanmar following political and economic developments of the country.

The government established SME Centers for adopting necessary policies and conducting research and SME Bank was established for dealing with monetary matters in

running SMEs, he said. He thanked the South Korean government for its pledge to open a KDI.

Through cooperation in SMEs, the interests of the peoples would be served, he said.

Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Union Minister U Soe Thein

and the KBIZ chairman exchanged notes of MoU on SME development. The President and those present had the lunch.

The President paid floral tribute at National Cemetery in Seoul in the evening and signed in the visitors' book.

MNA

NATIONAL



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and President Mr Lee Myung-bak of the Republic of Korea hold discussion at President's Residence in Seoul. (News on page 1)—MNA

Yedagun Socio-Economic Development Project donates medical equipment, teaching aids

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—Yedagun Socio-Economic Development Project donated medical equipment to Dawei People's Hospital

and teaching aids to Government Technical High School in Dawei at the ceremony held at the People's Hospital on 6

October. The government is opening more hospitals and schools around the country for socio-economic development of the people

Myanmar Banks Association meets

YANGON, 9 Oct—Executive Board of Myanmar Banks Association met at its office here this afternoon in the wake of recent buzz in the banking industry.

Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, who is also the chairman of the association, said that 23 foreign companies have put forward proposals to open country offices in Myanmar, calling for more transparency to achieve trust of the people.

Chairman of Cooperatives Bank U Khin Maung Aye explained undertakings of the association.

U Aung Ko Win, Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Ltd, which was recently hit by rumours, thanked the central bank for standing on his bank's side.

Kanbawza Bank is functioning as usual because it could retain confidence of customers by allowing them to withdraw unlimited amount of deposits as they wanted.—MNA

in each region, rural development and poverty alleviation.

Project counted in the bid for regional development.

The Taninthayi Region chief minister said at the ceremony that contributions of the Yedagun Socio-Economic Development

Myanmar in-charge Mr Ahmad Lutpi Haron of the project donated the medical equipment and teaching aids through the chief minister.

MNA

19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition Puppet Drama Contests

According to the historical, archaeological and literary evidences so far traceable, the earliest record of an actually performing puppets comes from the Nile basin in the 8th century B.C., that is about six hundred years before the reign of Tutankhamen, the Egyptian King.

Articulated statuettes excavated in Greece and Italy as well as some ancient texts show that puppets performed for entertainments and also for ceremonies in Hellenic times, the fifth century B.C. During the third century B.C., they even performed in the venerable Theatre of Dionysus in the Acropolis, the site of the greatest Greek strategy drama competitions.

In the ancient Greece, the live and puppet theatres flourished together. Usually, of course, the live theatre eclipsed the puppet theatre but, sometimes, the latter outshone the former.

Greek puppetry emigrated to Italy and on to the Roman Empire and from thence to other parts of Europe.

The puppet theatre in China can in fact look back on a history which is over 2000 years old and all types of puppet (shadow, glove, rod and string) flourish in the neighbouring country. Sung Dynasty (960-1279) enlisted many master puppeteer such as "Lu of the golden strings" meaning string puppets.

In India, the director of the theatre of the present is called, "Sutradhara" and, thus, scholars believe that the ancient Sanskrit drama was attempted with string puppets.

The puppet theatre in Myanmar dates back to Inwa Period (1364-1516) for the Htupayon Pagoda stone inscription set up at Sagaing in 1444 by King Narapati mentions a group of entertainers such as Puppeteers (ah-yoke-the) and musicians (pantara-the) the monarch dedicated as slaves to the shrine in order for them to entertain the worshippers from far and near.

Moreover, a young monk by the name of Shin Maha Rathas Thara (1468-1529) composed three poems with references to puppets such as "The Naga-serpents looked like figures manipulated by strings (Buridat-lingargyipyo); the figure of a bearded Brahmin with eyes which rotated and lips which opened (Minglazedi Mawgun) and Dances of large and small figures, illuminated by many oil lamps (Thanwara-pyo)".

The present writer of this article opines that, like in Thailand (nang) and like in Indonesia (wayang kulit), and the shadow puppets, the art of drama began with string

puppets in this country in the Innwa Dynasty (1364-1516).

According to the research carried out by U Maung Maung Tin in about 1960, five plays were performed to commemorate the holding of the hair-knotting and ear-boring ceremony of Princess Panhtwar, the daughter of King Nyaungyan (1599-1605), founder of the Nyaungyan Dynasty (1599-1762) in 1602. Therefore, the writer of this article is of the opinion that since five players were staged only three years after the establishment of the Nyaungyan Dynasty and since it was impossible for an art form such as drama to fully develop as soon as it was born, it is most probable that the Myanmar art of drama made its appearance much earlier than the beginning of the Nyaungyan Dynasty, for instance, the Toungoo Dynasty (1527-1590) or even Innwa Dynasty (1364-1516). In other words, at the beginning of the Innwa Dynasty (1364-1516), the string puppetry was born; by the middle of the same dynasty (1414-1464), the art of drama was attempted with string puppets; and, before the end of the dynasty (1464-1516), the live (human) drama came into being.

This year, the 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition, Puppetry Contests, the story designated for the puppet drama event is "Lu, Kyay, Naga, Kywet, Lay Par (Man, Parakeet, Naga (serpent) and Mouse; the Four Creatures)" based on a fictitious story formerly staged by both the live and puppet theatres. The story runs as follows. The king gives a necklace studded with rubies as a birthday present to his daughter. The next morning, the peasant man and his wife, while working in the rice field hear loud voices shouting for help and they see a man, a parakeet, a Naga and a mouse being stranded at the foot of the precipice because, the other night, a violent storm broke out and forced them to fall down the hill-side. The peasant man and woman throw a long rope down the precipice and they rescue firstly the mouse, then the parakeet, then the Naga and, finally, the man. The animals say words of thanks to the couple and, saying that the peasant man could call each and every one of them by wishing aloud, go away.

The peasant man and his wife bid the man farewell and go away. The man is in fact the king's appraiser. He is greatly displeased and angry for the peasant couple did not rescue him first as he is a human being like them and as he is the king's appraiser. The man goes away, determined to give trouble to the peasant man and woman some day, somehow.

The princess firstly places her clothes on the ground and then places the ruby necklace on the clothes, and then

goes to bathe in the pool. Meanwhile, the parakeet enters flying and, believing that the necklace is a piece of meat covered with blood, picks it up beak and flies away.

The princess in greatly overwhelmed with grief and she informed the matter to her father the king. The King orders that the necklace is not a piece of meat but something which human beings use for an unknown purpose. He goes to the peasant man and woman and presents the necklace as gesture of gratitude to them and goes away. The peasant man and woman, wishing to know the value of the necklace, go to the city and show it to the appraiser.

The appraiser now expresses his ingratitude by reporting the King that the peasant man and woman are responsible for the theft of the necklace. The King orders that the peasant couple be thrown into the dungeon at once and be killed the next day.

The Naga visits the peasant couple in the dungeon and

By Ye Dway

tells them his plan of temporarily killing the princess. He also tells the peasant man to seek the help of the mouse in order for the animal to go to the Himalaya Forest and fetch for him the root of a medicinal plant. The mouse did as he is told by the peasant and gives the medical root to him. The peasant man begs to Naga not to harm the princess.

The Naga enters the bed chamber of the princess and springs at her with his fangs and she dies. The King orders the town criers to declare that anyone who could save the life of the princess would be greatly rewarded.

The Naga, disguised as a man, informs and the town criers that the peasant couple being imprisoned for suspected theft of the necklace could cure all wounds caused by animals.

The peasant man and woman duly case resurrection to the princess using the medicinal root.

The king is holding court the next day. The peasant summons all his animal friends to him to act as witnesses. Then, he relates the story leading to the death and resurrection of the princess. In a fit of anger, the King orders that the wicked official be banished from his realm. He then presents a million pieces of silver to the peasant couple and makes them the riches persons in the kingdom and the drama closers.

WORLD



Eurozones ministers pose for a family photo after an European Stability Mechanism meeting, in Luxembourg, on 8 Oct, 2012.—XINHUA

Iraq eyes closer military, energy ties with Russia

Moscow, 9 Oct—Visiting Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki said on Monday that his country would strengthen military and energy ties with Russia.

Baghdad needs Russia's help in military and defence areas, and would like to forge closer partnership with Moscow in the future, Maliki said in a lecture delivered at the Russian Foreign Ministry mansion.

"Some people describe this visit as solely about arms purchases. But that is not the case," *RIA Novosti* quoted Maliki as saying.

Maliki admitted that Iraq needs arms to "defend itself

and fight terrorism," and underscored the country's demand for weapons to fight against rebels and terrorists in its deserted areas.

Meanwhile, Russia and Iraq could deepen cooperation in exploring natural resources in Iraq, which would help the Middle East country restore its infrastructure, Maliki said.

He also invited Russian companies to participate in the construction of Iraq's electric energy industry and other spheres.

In addition, Maliki said Iraq would like to cooperate with all its partners, including countries like the United

States and Iran.

The top Iraqi official arrived in Russia on Monday for a working visit at the invitation of Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Kremlin Press service reported.

Maliki would meet with Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev on Tuesday on military technology cooperation, local media reported.

On Wednesday, Maliki would talk with Putin on further promoting bilateral ties in political, trade and economic, and humanitarian areas, the Kremlin Press service reported.—*Xinhua*

Cities hit by recession ask voters to approve more debt

SAN FRANCISCO, 9 Oct—Houston-area schools want to borrow \$1.9 billion to modernize most of the high schools, while Seattle says it needs \$290 million to upgrade a seawall protecting the downtown waterfront so it can withstand an earthquake.

San Francisco wants to sell \$195 million of debt to repair and improve worn-out parks and playgrounds that it says have been "loved to death".

Voters in these and a number of other big US cities—some with already-high debt loads—will decide on Election Day whether to borrow even more or face prospects for reduced services or higher taxes.

The United States needs \$2 trillion of infrastructure upgrades, according to a 2011 report by the Urban Land Institute and Ernst & Young. Many of these roads, bridges, dams, water and sewer plants serve major metropolitan areas, but the recession left many cities struggling to pay for capital projects and services.



Downtown Seattle and the Elliott Bay waterfront are seen from atop the roof of the 650-foot-tall Space Needle looking South over the skyline on 17 April, 2012.—REUTERS

Elected leaders are wary of asking voters to approve more borrowing.

"Politicians are very sensitive to the current economic climate and hesitant to go to the voters for anything that would incur additional costs for debt, but there's also a recognition that revenues will not be enough to support our capital needs," said Miguel Santana, Los

Angeles city administrative officer.

Some cities are reaching levels of borrowing that fiscal monitors call critical, a no-go zone where high debt service costs can crowd out education, police and fire protection, or other priorities. A look at 10 prominent cities reveals markedly different debt profiles, according to data Moody's Investors

IMF cuts 2012 Africa growth forecast, raises outlook for 2013

IMF

TOKYO, 9 Oct—The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday cut its 2012 forecast for Africa along with most other countries around the world as the euro zone crisis dampens global demand and higher food prices weigh on food-importing countries in the region. In its latest World Economic Outlook, the IMF shaved its 2012 projections for Africa to 5 percent from 5.4 percent. However, it revised up its 2013 outlook to 5.7 percent from 5.3 percent.

The Fund said spillovers from the euro zone crisis into Africa have so far been modest except for South Africa, which has close financial and trading

ties with Europe. The IMF cut its 2013 forecast for South African growth to 3 percent from a July projection of 3.3 percent mainly due to the impact from the continuing euro zone debt crisis. It maintained its 2012 projection of 2.6 percent.

"If the euro area crisis escalates further and global growth slows further, Sub-Saharan Africa's prospects will be less favourable," the IMF said. "South Africa, strongly linked to Europe, would be particularly affected, with possible repercussions for some economies in southern Africa," the Fund said, "Softer commodity prices would adversely affect the region's

natural resource exporters," it added.

The IMF cautioned that African countries could also be hit if China's economy slowed sharply. China's economic growth is expected to be the lowest in more than a decade this year.

Increasing Chinese foreign direct investment and government funding to African countries has made it an important player in the region.

"The priority in much of the region is to continue to strengthen policy buffers and prepare contingency plans if downside risks materialize," the IMF added.

Reuters

Teenage workers to see minimum pay cut as New Zealand government aims to create jobs

New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 9 Oct—The New Zealand government on Tuesday announced it was cutting the minimum pay for teenage workers in a controversial bid to encourage youth employment.

Labour Minister Kate Wilkinson said the new "starting-out wage," to be introduced in April next year, would help provide young New Zealanders with more opportunities to get into the workforce. Wilkinson said the starting-out wage was the latest in a series of steps to help get more New Zealanders into jobs in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis.

"The new starting-out wage will create demand for young people by giving employers a real incentive to take them on," Wilkinson said in a statement. The government's plan would provide for eligible 16 to 19-year-olds to be paid 80 percent of the minimum wage.

"The new starting-out wage will help some of our youngest and most inexperienced workers get a much-needed foot in the door, in what is currently a tight labour market," she said. Those eligible for the lower minimum wage included 16 and 17-year-olds in their first six months of work with a new employer; 18 and 19-year-olds entering the workforce after more than six months on welfare; and 16 to 19-year-old workers in industry training courses. The starting-out wage would apply for up to six months after starting work with a new employer.—*Xinhua*

Main highway closed in Sweden due to flooding

Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 9 Oct—Main highway E4 was closed due to flooding caused by heavy rain in northern Sweden, reported Swedish media on Monday.

Near the City of Skelleftea in the northern area of Vasterbotten, villages were almost cut off completely by the flood and nine roads were closed, according to Swedish Television SVT.

The water is half a meter deep on the roads, said the report, adding that the local graveyard was under the water now. The further north of Sweden was also affected by the heavy rain, yet there is no report on death and injuries for the time being.—*Xinhua*



Students perform at a school in Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), on 5 Oct, 2012.—XINHUA

US

Service compiled for *Reuters*.

Many large cities, such as Boston, New York or Chicago, do not require voter approval to sell debt, relying on built-in policy safeguards. Boston, for example, limits debt service to 7 percent of expenditures. In other cities, voters must make the decisions on borrowings, as Seattle and Houston will do this November. Voters have mixed records when it comes to taking on debt, with citizens in some cities more restrained than in others.

One measure used to assess whether a city or state has over-borrowed is debt service as a percent of operating expenditures.

"Anything between 5 and 7 percent is enough, as a general rule of thumb," said Mark Tenenhaus, director of municipal research at RSW Investments, LLC, in Summit, New Jersey.

Seven out of 10 large cities have gone beyond that guideline, spending more than 7 percent of their annual budgets on repaying debt in 2011, according to Moody's.

Reuters

REGIONAL

Malaysian palm oil firm eyes Philippines after peace deal

South East Asia

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 Oct— Malaysia's Felda Global Ventures, the world's largest crude palm oil producer, is the first foreign investor to evince interest in the southern Philippines after Manila agreed on a historic peace deal with Muslim rebels, potentially opening up tracts of farm land.

ment and Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels agreed on Sunday on a pact to end 40 years of conflict in the impoverished southern region of Mindanao. Officials have cautioned that the deal is only a first step as the two sides need to thrash out details on the scope and powers of a new autonomous region. Conflict-wracked

Mindanao has the most suitable land in the Philippines for oil palms, Sabri Ahmad, chief executive of cash-rich Felda Global told Reuters in an interview.

"We will go there for oil palms," he said in the Malaysian capital late on Monday. "There is ample area for oil palms to meet strong local demand," he added. Felda Global had a \$3.1 billion listing earlier this year, at the time the largest in the world after Facebook's IPO, and had said it planned to use the funds to expand in Southeast Asia and Africa.

The fighting in Mindanao has deterred any widespread foreign investment in the agriculture and mineral-rich region.

Despite the natural resources, the Philippines imports more than 500,000 tonnes of crude palm oil a year to meet strong local demand for the product, used mostly for cooking.—Reuters

A US soldier walks past a Harrier jet after the opening ceremony of the RP-US Amphibious Landing Exercise (PHIBLEX) 2013 inside of the USS Bonhomme Richard assault ship docked in Subic bay, the Philippines, on 8 Oct, 2012.

XINHUA



Filipino soldiers, US Marines begin annual joint exercises

Philippines

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, 9 Oct— Members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the United States Armed Forces started a joint training exercise at the Subic Bay in the northern Philippine province of Zambales on Monday.

Over 2,000 US troops and about 1,600 Filipino soldiers are taking part in the annual Amphibious Landing Exercise 2013 (PHIBLEX) which will be held until 18 October.

This year's exercise will focus on improving intero-

perability for humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions.

Majority of the activities will take place in Zambales and in other areas in northern Philippines — Crow Valley and Camp O' Donnell in Tarlac; Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija; Basa Air Base in Floridablanca in Pampanga; and Marine Base Gregorio Lim in Cavite City.

A staff planning exercise focusing on humanitarian assistance and disaster response will be staged in the northern Philippine Province

of Palawan.

US deputy chief of mission Brian Goldbleck said this year's PHIBLEX is another demonstration of the "great friendship and cooperation" between the Philippines and the United States. PHIBLEX 13 is a regularly scheduled exercise hosted annually by the Philippines. It is the 29th of a continuing series of exercises "designed to promote regional peace and security by ensuring interoperability and readiness of Philippine and US forces."—Xinhua



A Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA) farmer sits on oil palm fruits to be delivered to the factory in Hulu Selangor, about 100 km (62 miles) north of Kuala Lumpur in this 22 Feb 2012—REUTERS

Pacific Island countries to meet on Millennium Development Goals

SUVA, 9 Oct— Government representatives, civil society and development agencies from 15 Pacific Island countries will meet in Fiji's western tourist town of Nadi from Wednesday to review the region's Millennium Development Goals (MDG) achievements, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said on Tuesday.

According to a UNDP release, the Island countries' gathering will also assess the challenges that need to be addressed for some of the MDG goals on how to accelerate progress towards their achievement in the remaining period to 2015. The Post-2015 Pacific Consultation, which is organized through a regional partnership for MDG between ESCAP, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the UNDP in cooperation with the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat and the Asia Pacific Community of Practice on Managing for Development Results (APCoP), will also gather views and perspectives on the post-2015 development agenda and the processes to define sustainable development goals.

It responds to a request by the 43rd Pacific Island Forum in which the leaders urged the regional agencies to work with the UN to support countries take urgent action to accelerate progress and get behind a "final push" to achieve the MDGs by 2015 as well as begin consultations on what are the priorities of the Pacific ahead of global discussions on the post-2015 agenda.—Xinhua

Pakistan rejects Karzai's assertion as misplaced, baseless

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 9 Oct— Pakistan on Monday rejected comments reportedly made by Afghan President Hamid Karzai about conditions for a proposed Strategic Partnership agreement between Pakistan and Afghanistan as "entirely misplaced and without any basis."

It was reported that Karzai said in Kabul last week that conditions would be attached to negotiations on a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Pakistan.

Listing conditions, Karzai said at a Press conference that neighbours must stop the export of terrorism, suicide bombers, interference and all the other things which result in killing and disturbing the Afghan people's tranquility and destabilizing Afghanistan.

"Once we are assured that Pakistan with which we want to have a friendly relationship meets these conditions— eliminates terrorism and extremism and stops the

training and export of insurgency to Afghanistan— Afghanistan will be ready to work on this," the Afghan president said.

Commenting on Karzai's assertions, Pakistan's Foreign Ministry spokesman clarified that Pakistan desires to promote good relations with Afghanistan on the basis of mutual respect and mutual interest. "In this regard comments reportedly made by President Karzai and certain other quarters in

terrorist threat he allegedly fabricated.

The man, whose surname was given as Wang, confessed to the police that he made the fake terrorist threat that had led to the

China Man detained after hoax grounded plane in NW China

LANZHOU, 9 Oct— A suspect was detained by police in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region late Monday night, hours after a plane made a forced landing because of a

forced landing of an international passenger plane, according to sources with Xinjiang public security authorities. Police said they are investigating Wang's motives of making up the

land in Beijing at 5:50 pm, according to the flight's timetable. It made its forced landing in Gansu at around 5:30 pm.

All the 196 onboard, including 186 passengers and 10 crew members, were evacuated immediately after the landing. No other flights at the Zhongchuan Airport were disrupted. An Internet user who claimed to be one of the passengers on the plane said she was not given any explanation before or after the landing.

"Without the maps app on my mobile phone, I would not even have known where I was," said Baimifan at Sina Weibo, China's Twitter-like microblogging website. She was identified as a designer with Puma by the website. The latest incident came less than two months after bombing threats grounded two airplanes in China.

In late August, an Air China flight bound for New York returned to Beijing Capital International Airport after it received a threatening message. The plane headed for New York after no dangerous items were found on the plane.

In the same week, a Shenzhen Airlines domestic flight returned after receiving a bomb threat. Police in central China detained a man who confessed that he fabricated the bomb hoax to stop a creditor aboard the flight from collecting his debt.—Xinhua



Passengers board on the plane CZ680 at Gansu Zhongchuan Airport in Lanzhou, northwest China's Gansu Province, on 8 Oct, 2012. The passenger plane, which made a forced landing in Lanzhou on Monday afternoon after receiving an anonymous "terrorist threat," took off at about 10:45 pm Monday after a security check.—XINHUA

threat. The China Southern Airlines flight CZ680, travelling from Istanbul to Beijing via Urumqi, was grounded in the Zhongchuan Airport in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China's Gansu Province, hours after its take-off from Xinjiang's capital of Urumqi.

The Boeing 757 took off again at around 10:45 pm at the airport after a four-hour-long security check found no explosives or any other suspected items. The plane was scheduled to take off from Urumqi at 2:30 pm and

Afghanistan are entirely misplaced and without any basis." The spokesman further clarified that the proposed Strategic Partnership Agreement was suggested by President Karzai during a trilateral summit between Afghanistan, Pakistan and Britain in New York last week.

Referring to allegations against Pakistan, the spokesman said that Pakistan has invested heavily to promote stability in Afghanistan.—Xinhua

BUSINESS & ADVERTISEMENT

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MV GIANG HAI 09 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI 09 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (6) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (018) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA SUNNY VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: SANG THAI SHIPPING CO LTD.
Phone No: 256924/256914**

Armenia sees fast ICT development in recent years

Armenia
YEREVAN, 9 Oct— Armenia has seen noticeable development of information communication technology (ICT) in recent years, the local media *Armenpress* quoted an official as saying on Monday. Bagrat Yengibaryan, chairman of the Enterprise Incubator Foundation, said the ICT sector has maintained an average annual growth rate of 20 percent to 30 percent in recent years, and there are plenty of related programmes being developed in the country. According to the reports of *Armenpress*, 47 percent of Armenians were Internet users in 2010, while the figure was only 0.1 percent back in 2001.

The country now has 400 ICT firms, with altogether 10,000 employees. Some 80 percent of these companies are export-oriented, and are mainly operating in the capital city. Their annual turnover is close to 200 million US dollars, said the reports.

Armenpress also said Armenia is well ahead of Azerbaijan and Georgia in the ICT industry.—*Xinhua*

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Tin Ohnmar Tun & The Law Chambers
Ph:09 73 150 632
Email:law_chambers@seasiren.com.mm
(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated 10 October,2012.

**Ministry of Sports
Invitation of the Open Tender for Myanmar Athletes who have been training at Sports Training Center, to participate in 27th South East Asian Games**

1. (1500) Athletes have been training at Sports Training Center, to participate in 27th South East Asian Games. We would like to invite who interest to Sponsor and Agent for following items to support the Officials, Coaches, Organizing Committee Members, Supporting Staffs, Liaisons and Volunteers during Pre-Games and Games time.

- (a) Various kinds of Sports wears for Training and Competition.
- (b) Various kinds of Training and Competition aids and equipment for respective Sports.
- (c) Various kinds of Uniforms with Competition Logo (used for Organizing Committee Members, Supporting Staffs, Liaisons and Volunteers).
- (d) Commemorative souvenirs, with trade of Mascot.
- (e) Purified drinking water and various kinds of Soft drinks.
- (f) Hot Beverages and Cereals.
- (g) Other foodstuffs.

2. We will allow to advertise in 27th South East Asian Games Stadiums, Venues and other respective area of Games to the Companies and Business who Sponsor to us. In this regards who interest for this purpose have to present very clearly about the proposal of what kind of Sponsor would you like to offer and how would you like to advertise.

3. The forms of the Open Tender will be distributed at Ministry of Sports, Office No. (31), Nay Pyi Taw, daily between 09:30 Hr to 16:00 Hr from 9th October 2012 to 22nd October 2012.

4. The Open Tenders must be submitted in front of the Members of Tender Invitation at Ministry of Sports, Office No. (31), Nay Pyi Taw, between 09:30 Hr to 12:00 Hr on 26th October 2012. We will not consider the tender which has been submitted after closing time.

5. Who will interest can inquire details about the Open Tender and get the tender forms at above mention address.

Sports Marketing Committee.
Office No. (31) Nay Pyi Taw.
Tel: 067-406029, 067-406039

Business conference to promote trade between Sweden, Iraq

STOCKHOLM, 9 Oct—The Swedish-Iraqi Business and Investment Conference opened here on Monday with aims to promote trade and business between Sweden and Iraq.

"I hope that this conference will inspire Iraqi and Swedish companies to engage in new forms of cooperation and to further develop existing projects, for the benefit of our two countries," said the host of the conference Swedish Minister for Trade Ewa Bjorling.

"Around 1.5 percent of Sweden's population are of Iraqi origin and can play a very special role in enhancing ties between Sweden and Iraq," she added.

Bjorling also said that Sweden was happy to share its experiences and benefits of free trade on which Sweden's prosperity was built.

The conference would also include match-making, workshops and business meetings of representatives from different sectors of the two countries.

Xinhua

Putin guarantees Europe seamless gas supply

Moscow, 9 Oct— Moscow would guarantee stable and seamless supplies of natural gas to European customers, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday.

"Gas will be shipped directly, stably, by the shortest route linking largest Russian gas deposits with the European markets, with no transit risks and interruptions," Putin said in a video address upon the Nord Stream pipeline's start of operating on full capacity.

On Monday, the Line Two of the Nord Stream started pumping gas from Russia to Germany. The Line One with an annual capacity of 27.5 billion cubic metres was opened in November 2011.

"Nord Stream is capable to satisfy growing demand on energy resources in Europe," Putin said, adding the pipeline worked in fully automatic mode under control from an electronic control centre.

According to Putin, the project's design helped reduce environmental harm for Baltic Sea and cut maintenance expenses, the Kremlin Press service reported.

Hot water leak in industrial laundry facility injures 18 in Austria

VIENNA, 9 Oct—A hot water leak from an industrial washing machine injured 18 people in Mauer near Amstetten in Austria on Monday morning, local media reported.

The 18 people suffered from respiratory irritation due to the high-temperature vapor and had been sent to hospital, the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF) reported.

Xinhua

"Russia has always fulfilled and will be fulfilling its commitments as a reliable and predictable fuel supplier on the European market. We expect the European Union would facilitate the efficient use of Nord Stream's potential," Putin said.

He said the Nord Stream would make a sizeable contribution to economic growth of both Russia and Europe as a whole. Under existing contracts, Russia would supply European customers annually with 55 billion cubic meters of gas for 50 years ahead.—*Xinhua*

Russia and its German, Italian, Japanese partners have invested 6.4 billion euros (over 8 billion U.S. dollars) into the 2,500-km underwater Trans-European Energy Network's pipeline.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 8 Oct, 2012 shows debris of a blast-hit residential building in Baoding, north China's Hebei Province. The death toll of an explosion that happened at around 3 pm last Saturday has climbed to eight, while 27 injured remain in hospital.

XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Olivia Wilde moves in with new beau Jason Sudeikis

NEW DELHI, 9 Oct—Olivia Wilde has taken her romance with Jason Sudeikis to the next level.

The 28-year-old *Butter* actress—who plays a stripper called Brooke in the satirical comedy movie—has moved in with her comedian actor boyfriend of nine months.

A source told *US Weekly* magazine: “They are living together now,” and are “totally inseparable.”

The blissfully happy couple are said to be joined at the hip but are in no rush to wed, as they have both been married before.

Saturday Night Live star Jason was previously married to actress and 30 Rock writer Kay Cannon from 2004 to 2010.

Olivia divorced her husband of eight years Italian American filmmaker and musician Tao Ruspoli in September 2011.

The source said: “They’ve both been married, so they’ve already experienced that and know what it entails. It’s something for down the road.”

The couple always make time for romantic dates despite their hectic schedules.

The 37-year-old actor snuck away from the Saturday Night Live set to take her to a concert in New York City last week.

The source said: “Everyone on the show staff was writing late, but Jason managed to sneak over to Radio City Music Hall to see Bon Iver with Olivia.”—PTI



Olivia Wilde, Jason Sudeikis

Jessica Biel is unstressed about her wedding to Justin Timberlake

NEW DELHI, 9 Oct—Jessica Biel feels completely unstressed about her upcoming wedding to Justin Timberlake.

The 30-year-old *Psycho* actress—who got engaged to the SexyBack singer in Big Sky, Montana on their annual vacation last January after dating for five years—is determined to take a laid-back approach to her big day.

She told E! News: “I’m just pretty much cool as a cucumber in general in my life. So no, I’m cool.”

The *Total Recall* star previously admitted that she has no desire to become a “bridezilla” and is happy to let a wedding planner create their special day.

She said: “I’m one of those people who is not very detail-oriented. I’m sort of the big idea person, so I’ll probably give an idea and then let it be created.”

Her fiancé Justin also recently opened up about their relationship and his hopes that his marriage is successful describing it as a “team effort”.

He said: “Some days are better than other days for all of us—and if we have our good days and bad days individually, and then we’re dealing with someone else’s good and bad days on top of that, it’s going to add up. My mother is a ball of fire in the world and I love that about her. But what I have learned from my stepdad is something as important, which is patience and compassion. Because when you are living with someone else, those two qualities go a long way.”

When asked what makes Jessica wife material, the 31-year-old star grinned: “She’s a really, really, really special person. Plus, she’s really, really, hot!”—PTI



Jessica Biel, Justin Timberlake

Reese Witherspoon gets royal gift

LONDON, 9 Oct—Prince William and Duchess Catherine sent Hollywood actress Reese Witherspoon a Union Jack onesie after her son was born.

The 36-year-old *Sweet Home Alabama* actress and husband Jim Toth welcomed their little boy Tennessee James into the world last month.

The royal couple, who Reese Witherspoon met when they visited Los Angeles last year, were among the first to send a gift and a handwritten note, reported *Femalefirst* online.

Reese Witherspoon’s *Water for Elephants* co-star Robert Pattinson, who hid out at her California ranch following his break-up with Kristen Stewart, also sent a lavish gift, a cradle from Posh Tots worth almost \$ 2,000.

“Rob was one of the first to call and he even promised unlimited babysitting services. The baby is the toast of Hollywood,” a source said.

Reese Witherspoon has two children, Ava, 13, and Deacon, eight, from her marriage to Ryan Phillippe.

Reuters



Reese Witherspoon

Kristen Stewart punishing herself by Googling negative comments about her

LONDON, 9 Oct—*Twilight* star Kristen Stewart is reportedly punishing herself by reading negative comments about her on the Internet.

The 22-year-old actress, who was caught cheating on boyfriend actor Robert Pattinson by having an affair with director Rupert Sanders, is hooked to the computer, reported Sun online.

“Kristen is hooked on Googling herself and seeing all of the horrible stuff people write as a way of punishing herself,” a source said.

“When Kristen searches results about the films or her name on Twitter she ends up focusing on all the wild, negative comments against her and it really gets her down,” the source added.

However, the couple have now reunited, and Pattinson asked Stewart not to give herself pain. “It’s not healthy and Robert has said it must stop. He has told her she needs to stop torturing herself and move on,” the source said.

The couple met on the sets of *Twilight* in 2008 and will soon be seen onscreen in *Breaking Dawn 2*, the final movie of the franchise. —PTI



Twilight star Kristen Stewart

Lindsay Lohan is “not in a good place”

NEW DELHI, 9 Oct—The troubled actress recently claimed she was attacked by Christian LaBella after she confronted him for taking pictures of her in a New York City hotel room but her close pal Claus Hjelmback, who was present when the incident occurred, says Lindsay is having a tough time because people keep taking advantage of her.

He told E! News: “She’s not in a good place. But it’s not because of health issues. She’s not in a good place, because people around her keep throwing her under the bus.”

Claus claims Lindsay—who has spent time in rehab and jai—is just a “sweet girl” who people take advantage of and says she was horrified that someone would take pictures of her in a private setting.

He explained: “Lindsay is a sweet girl and is very open and nice when people come over and talk. In this case, she thought it was somebody her friends know.”

“She was visibly shaken already at that point [when she discovered the pictures]. She was shocked. At that moment, you feel betrayed when you are in a private space and you realise someone has documented the entire night on the phone.”



PTI Lindsay Lohan

SPORTS

Ronaldo to join Portugal after serious injury

Soccer

ruled out

MADRID, 9 Oct—Cristiano Ronaldo's shoulder injury is not serious and he will join up with the Portugal squad later on Monday, his club Real Madrid said.

Ronaldo hurt his left shoulder attempting an overhead kick in the second half of Sunday's 2-2 La Liga draw at Barcelona and although he appeared in some discomfort he played on until the end of match.

"The Real Madrid forward was examined by

(www.realmadrid.com).

"Real Madrid have already informed the Portuguese football federation of Cristiano Ronaldo's situation and he can join up with his national team in Obidos," the statement added.

Ronaldo would remain under observation but should be available for Portugal's World Cup 2014 Group F qualifiers away to Russia on Friday and at home to Northern Ireland four days later, Real said.

rivals. Barca's World Player of the Year Lionel Messi also netted a double as the pair continued their personal goal-scoring duel in a thrilling clash at the Nou Camp.

"I have only admiration for him," Real director Emilio Butragueno said of Ronaldo in a post-match interview with Spanish TV.

"He is a born winner and he wanted to finish the game despite being in pain," the former Real and Spain striker added. "Few players bring so much to a team as he is doing."

Ronaldo, the world's most expensive player, appears to have put behind him a period early in the season where he refused to celebrate his goals and admitted to feeling "sad" without specifying why.

Unsources reports in local media suggested he wanted more money and he was linked with a move away from the Spanish capital to clubs including big-spending Paris St Germain.—Reuters

Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo grimaces on the pitch during their Spanish first division soccer match against Barcelona at Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona on 7 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS



club medical staff at his home this morning and a serious injury was ruled out so further tests at a hospital are not necessary," Real said in a statement on their website

Ronaldo turned in another imperious display against Barca, netting twice to become the first player to score in six consecutive 'Clasicos' against Real's arch

Bolt eyes "three-peat" at 2016 Rio Olympics

Athletic

LONDON, 9 Oct—Olympic sprint champion Usain Bolt has set his sights on defending his three titles at the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro rather than switching to another event, the six-times gold medalist said on Monday.

The 26-year-old Jamaican said his coach would like him to take up the 400 meters and Bolt, wary of up-and-coming sprinters like teammate Yohan Blake, has spoken of trying the long jump.

Bolt said he had reached "legend" status after becoming the first man to retain both the 100 and 200 meters Olympic titles at the London Games and that he needed to make another goal.

"It's all about going in and trying to defend my titles. I don't want to try any different event at Rio," Bolt said at a promotional event in Auckland.

"Rio is just to defend my titles to show the world the possibility that I can do it again, the 'three-peat'," added the sprinter, who also retained his 4x100 relay gold medal with a world-record run inside London's Olympic Stadium.



Usain Bolt of Jamaica

Speculation was rife after the Olympics that Bolt could change disciplines while the sprinter himself said he wanted to try his hand at professional football or cricket.

Bolt has cemented himself as the greatest sprinter following on from American Carl Lewis, who like Bolt claimed back-to-back Olympic 100 titles and was also a four-time long jump gold medalist, dominating the event from 1984 to 1996.

Bolt said his heart was still with athletics. "I was doing great from when I was young so people were saying I was fast for my age but I've

put a lot of work into it since I've been a senior athlete. "For me that's the focus right now, I don't know how fast I can go but I'll definitely try and go faster every year."

The Jamaican added competing for himself above his country has helped him overcome the nerves and expectation that have followed him since his crowning moment at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

"If you go out thinking 'I've got to do this for the country' then it becomes bigger because then millions of people go on your shoulders," said Bolt.

Reuters

American Venturi voted into Hall of Fame

NEW YORK, 9 Oct—Former US Open champion and television broadcaster Ken Venturi, a 14-times winner on the PGA Tour, has been voted into the World Golf Hall of Fame as part of the class of 2013.

The 81-year-old American, whose selection in the Hall of Fame's lifetime achievement category was announced on Monday, will be inducted on 6 May at the World Golf Village in St Augustine, Florida.

"It's just an honour," Venturi said on a conference call from Pebble Beach Golf Links in his home state of Northern California. "The greatest reward in life is to be remembered and I thank the World Golf Hall of Fame for remembering me."

"I was taught by Byron Nelson and I asked him one time, 'How could I ever repay you for all you've done for me?' He said, Ken, be good to the game and give back."

"And that's what I've tried to do because I've said many times, the world will never remember you for what you take from it, but only what you leave behind."

The highlight of Venturi's playing career came in the 1964 US Open at Congressional Country Club where he overcame 100-degree temperatures and severe dehydration to win his only major championship.

He was forced to quit competitive golf because of carpal tunnel syndrome in 1967. The following year, he joined CBS television as an

analyst and enjoyed a lengthy career as one of the most insightful and respected figures in the game.

"He played on the Ryder Cup in 1965, he captained the US Presidents Cup in 2000," said PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem.

"But to fans around the



American team captain Ken Venturi. —REUTERS

Golf

United States and around the world, he was the conduit of what PGA Tour level golf was to those fans for an incredible 35-year broadcast career which spanned many, many careers on the PGA Tour.

"Ken Venturi was a fixture to the game of golf for fans everywhere in terms of his ability to analyse the game and excite fans about the play they were watching."

Venturi joins 1992 Masters champion Fred Couples, who was voted into the World Golf Hall of Fame via the PGA Tour category three weeks ago.

The Hall of Fame will round out the class of 2013 by announcing inductees from the international ballot and the veterans category in the coming months.—Reuters

Shelvey and Bertrand added to England squad Soccer

LONDON, 9 Oct—Liverpool's uncapped midfielder Jonjo Shelvey and Chelsea's left-sided player Ryan Bertrand have been added to the England squad for the World Cup qualifiers with San Marino and Poland.

The English FA said in a statement that left back Kieran Gibbs had been ruled out of the squad with injury, prompting Bertrand's callup following two previous caps.

Regular left back Ashley Cole, charged with misconduct by the FA on Monday for a foul-mouthed Twitter comment about the organisation, joined up with the squad as normal ahead of the San Marino game at Wembley on Friday and the 16 October trip to Poland.

England coach Roy



Jonjo Shelvey

Hodgson raised eyebrows when calling up uncapped duo Raheem Sterling of Liverpool and Adam Lallana of Southampton for last month's Group H qualifier against Ukraine and Shelvey's addition this time is another surprise.—Reuters

Chelsea defender Cole charged by FA over Twitter rant

LONDON, 9 Oct—Chelsea defender Ashley Cole was charged by the

England's Ashley Cole reacts after missing a penalty during the penalty shoot-out in their Euro 2012 quarter-final soccer match against Italy at the Olympic Stadium in Kiev, on 24 June, 2012. —REUTERS



Football Association (FA) on Monday over his foul-mouthed Twitter rant against the governing body.

The England international called the FA a "bunch of t**s" on Friday after being accused of "evolving" his statement supporting team mate John Terry's defence against the charge he racially abused Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand in a game

last October.

Cole removed the tweet within hours of posting it and then apologized unreservedly.

The full back has been called up by England for the World Cup qualifiers against San Marino on Friday and Poland four days later and was set to meet up with the squad on Monday.

Cole has until Thursday to respond to the FA charge.

Reuters



Ryan Bertrand

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(10-10-12 09:30 am ~ 11-10-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Review of Three Diseases Fund and Launch of Three Millennium Development Goals Fund
- * News
- * Shan Flat Rice Noodle Soup
- * News
- * Equal & Included-Disability in 2012
- * News
- * Towards Success through training (Shooting)
- * News
- * New Trend of Myanmar

- Car Market
- * News
- * A Cordial Welcome From Pantauing
- * News
- * Myanmar Global Investment Forum: Progress, Potential and Promise
- * News
- * Korea - Myanmar Industrial Cooperation
- * Myanmar Movie "Love On The Internet"

MYANMAR TV

(10-10-2012, Wednesday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

- 7:30 am
- 2. Morning News
- 7:50 am
- 3. Health Programme
- 8:10 am
- 4. Documentary
- 8:40 am
- 5. International News
- 4:25 am
- 6. Teleplay (Health)
- 4:40 pm
- 7. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Physics)
- 5:10 am
- 8. International science News
- 5:20 pm
- 9. Road to 27th SEA GAMES (Billiards & Snooker)

- 5:30 pm
- 10. ASEAN "Programmes"
- 6:00 pm
- 11. Evening News
- 6:15 pm
- 12. Welther Report
- 6:20 pm
- 13. Traditional Boxing
- 6:30 pm
- 14. Documentary
- 7:25 pm
- 15. Nostalgia to Myanmar Cultural Arts (Parts-2)
- 8:00 pm
- 16. News
- 17. International News
- 18. Weather Report
- 19. TV Drama Series
- 20. Daramatic Arts Competition (Traditional Drama)



Revellers take part in the 68th annual Columbus Day Parade on the Fifth Avenue in New York, on 8 Oct, 2012. —XINHUA

Van Rompuy calls for more action on growth, jobs

BRUSSELS, 9 Oct—European Council President Herman Van Rompuy on Monday called for more efforts to implement the compact for the growth and jobs agreed in June.

"Our commitments will not make the Union return to growth unless they are followed by decisive action," Van Rompuy said in an open letter, two weeks ahead of a critical summit for the eurozone.

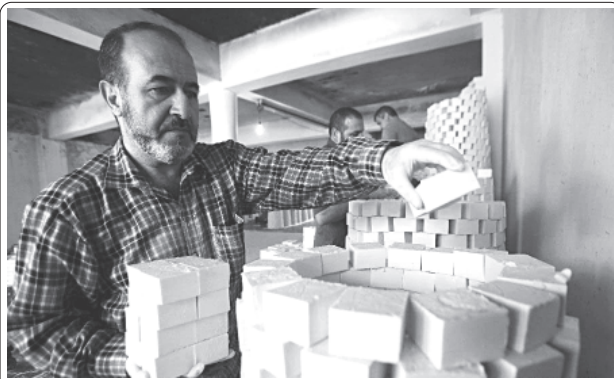
In particular, the president warned of the risk that only half of the priority instruments for the Single Market Act could be agreed by the end of the year, pointing out that progress remained slow in certain aspects.

The proposed instruments have been under discussion in the Parliament and the Council since the EU's first Single Market Act was adopted in April of last year.

Van Rompuy urged that the measures of the first Single Market Act should be concluded as soon as possible, adding that the Commission was preparing for a second act of single market.

The EU's Single Market refers to free movement of goods, services, capital and persons within the bloc of 27 member states, while priority instruments are aimed at boosting competitiveness, employment, growth and confidence at a time of widespread crisis.

Xinhua



A Palestinian worker lines up soap pieces at the Touqan factory in the West Bank city of Nablus, on 8 Oct, 2012. The Touqan factory is one of the oldest manual factories in Nablus that manufactures the natural "Nabulsi Soap" since 1894. —XINHUA

Car accident in Egypt's Sinai kills 18 recruits

CAIRO, 9 Oct—A security vehicle turned over on a road in Sinai of Egypt and killed 18 military conscripts and wounded six others, a security source told Xinhua Monday.

"The number of victims are still being counted," the source said, noting that the vehicle was carrying 45 security personnel in all.

The wounded, along with the bodies of the dead, have been taken to a hospital in Al-Arish, the capital of North Sinai, Health Ministry undersecretary Tarek Khater said, adding that those in critical conditions will be transferred to be treated in the capital Cairo. Meanwhile, Egypt's President Mohamed Morsi has ordered the armed forces and Interior Ministry officials to head to the accident site to help rescue the injured people.—Xinhua

Cuban leader congratulates Chavez on re-election

HAVANA, 9 Oct—Cuban leader Raul Castro has congratulated Venezuela's Hugo Chavez on his election victory and reiterated "unwavering solidarity and support." "On behalf of the Cuban government and people, I congratulate you on this historic triumph, demonstrating the strength of the Bolivarian revolution and its unquestionable popular support," Castro said in a message published by the official Granma newspaper. "Your decisive victory ensures the continuity of the struggle for the genuine integration of Latin America," he added.

Chavez, 58, was re-elected Sunday for a new six-year term to lead the South American nation and pursue his "21st century socialism" project of greater nationalization. Venezuela is Cuba's main economic and political ally.—Xinhua

Heavy drivers thwart US auto industry's fuel-efficiency efforts

HOUSTON, 9 Oct—Overweight Americans are thwarting the auto industry's efforts to improve fuel-efficiency by adding extra pounds to their lighter-weight cars, a US newspaper reported on Monday.

One billion gallons of gasoline were burned each year between 1960 and 2002 because of Americans' growing waistlines, daily newspaper *The Houston Chronicle* quoted a report by Entrepreneur.com as

reporting. Americans are weighing 20 pounds more than they did in 1990, the report said.

For every additional 100 pounds, a vehicle's fuel economy drops by as much as 2 percent, according to the US Department of Energy.

US auto makers have been monitoring every ounce to meet strict new federal rules on fuel economy. They are using less steel and lighter plastics in auto parts to make the vehicles lighter to meet

the US government's target of an average 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025.

"But even as the automotive industry goes to extremes to shed weight to meet these rules, heavier drivers are adding unexpected pounds," said a blog by auto insurer, Allstate insurance. "It's a seesaw battle that's making it difficult to realize the gains expected by a big push for lighter, more fuel efficient cars," the blog said.

Xinhua

Condolences

Daewoo International Corporation and IPS Add Energy wish to pass on their sincere gratitude and thanks to all the various authorities and people involved in the professional handling of Mr. James Hagler who sadly passed away from natural causes on Sunday 30th September 2012 at the MiCasa Hotel & Apartment.

A special thank is extended to the management and staff of MiCasa Hotel & Apartment, senior police officials and staff who attended the scene and carried out the investigation, doctors and staff at the Yangon General Hospital where post mortem was conducted, government officials from Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and finally Consul and staff of U.S Embassy for their full support in all matters.

Daewoo International Corporation and IPS Add Energy also wish to convey their sincere and heartfelt condolences to wife and son of late Mr. Hagler.



A Palestinian farmer dries Arabic tobacco leaves at a farm in the West Bank village Yaabed, near Jenin, on 8 Oct, 2012. Arabic Tobacco cigarettes manufacturing is famous in Yaabed village which produce a quality local cigarettes cheaper than imported cigarettes. XINHUA

Judicial reform to be made in real time for ensuring Rule of Law, basis for sustainability of favourable economic environment

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct — President U Thein Sein made a speech at Myanmar Investment Forum held at the headquarters of Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTPA) at 9:30 local time today.

In was also attended by delegation members Union ministers, chief ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, UMFCI Vice-President Dr Mya Han and executives, officials of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and Ministry of Construction, Minister for Knowledge Economy Mr. Hong Sukwoo of the Republic of Korea, KOTPA President Mr. Oh Young Ho and executives.

The KOTRA President and Knowledge Economy Minister extended greetings.

In his speech, President U Thein Sein said he was very glad to have an opportunity for delivering a speech at KOTPA that plays a key role in the sectors of investment and international trade for economic development of the Republic of Korea. He said his country was trying to develop a market-oriented economic system in connection with international economic communities. He said Myanmar is in urgent need of foreign investments and technological aids that could assist in development of Inclusive Economic Institutions which are very important for democratic

transition and in the already-achieved political process.

Myanmar's location makes strategically important to two global economic engines and its strategic location has become a place for flow of commodities between developing ASEAN countries and two global economic engines. Myanmar, a focal point of highways that can improve transportation of goods in Asia, was winning a special interest of international investors. Myanmar's youthful population has become human resources for the move towards economic development. Myanmar is rich in natural resources importantly required for

(See page 8)



President U Thein Sein delivering an address at Myanmar Investment Forum.
MNA

Cooperation in SMEs to serve interests of Myanmar, South Korean peoples



President U Thein Sein making a speech at luncheon hosted by Korean small- and medium-scale enterprises.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—President U Thein Sein addressed a luncheon hosted by the Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business (KBIZ) at Lotte Hotel of Seoul in South Korea this afternoon.

Also present at the luncheon together with the President were Union ministers, region chief ministers, deputy ministers and delegation members. It was also attended by the chairman and members of KBIZ, officials of Federation

of Korea Industries (FKI), Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) and Korea International Trade Association and guests.

Chairman Mr Kim Ki Moon of KBIZ extended greetings.

The President said in his address that he visited South Korea at the invitation of South Korean President Mr Lee Myung-bak and it is the first-ever goodwill visit of a leader of Myanmar during 25 years. The two countries established diplomatic relations since 1975, he said. The friendship and mutual cooperation improved the mutual relations after the establishment of diplomatic ties, he said.

Coming across various historical experiences like Myanmar, South Korea is achieving development in all sectors, he said. Not only East Asian countries but the world nations are inspired by achievements of rapid growth by South Korea and its hard-working people, he said.

The President underscored the need to extract highest productivity of all citizens and found Inclusive Economic Institutions that could independently make business decisions without giving any space for oligarchy. The emergence of Inclusive Economic Institutions with the participation of all political forces in the political process could bring about the economic development and make democracy well entrenched in Myanmar, He said. The President said he believed that the emergence of inclusive economic institutions is important.

The entrepreneurs and small and medium entrepreneurs in Myanmar's economy who had lacked contacts with international economic community need to initiate necessary economic reforms in cooperation with Korean (See page 8)

In an effort to bring about country's economic development, relying only on agriculture sector is not enough

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—President U Thein Sein, who is on tour of Seoul of the Republic of Korea, met with Ambassador U Nyunt Hlaing, military attaché Brig-Gen Myint Hein, staff and their families from embassy and military attaché office and Myanmar students at Myanmar Embassy in Seoul, at 6.10 pm local time yesterday.

In his speech, the President said that although Myanmar has a lot of prospects for its development, it has lagged behind in the development due to more than two decades of economic sanctions. In an effort to bring about country's economic development, relying only on agriculture sector is not enough. The country can get the development only when it can be established as

industrialized country.

Myanmar is a resource-rich country and is blessed with favorable climate condition and a flood of arable lands. But, Myanmar has no adequate capital, technology and human resources needed for establishment of an industrialized country. So, Myanmar is inviting a lot of investments. In the past, the bans on economy and money flow caused the barriers to foreign investments.

Under Myanmar's new international relation policy, Myanmar has established the good relations with the globe, regardless of East and West. Thanks to it, EU and US have already eased economic sanctions. And Myanmar would

(See page 7)



More investment in Myanmar discussed
PAGE 2

UK, Japan scientists win Nobel for adult stem cell discovery



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