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Our Three Main National Causes

* **Non-disintegration of the Union**

* **Non-disintegration of National Solidarity**

* **Perpetuation of Sovereignty**

Myanmar enjoys GSP with retroactive benefit for exports

Attendees seen at the second day of fifth regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw.
MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—Pyithu Hluttaw continued its second day of the fifth regular session at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex, here, today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 389 MPs.

At the meeting, six questions were answered, one proposal, recorded and one report, submitted.

At question-and-answer session, Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin answered the queries raised by two Hluttaw representatives on health sector.

Regarding the query on “**If there is any plan to appoint an eye specialist at Kyaukpyu District Hospital and there is any restriction on appointment of eye specialists at any hospitals (100-bed),**” raised by U Ba Shein from Kyaukpyu Constituency, the Union Health Minister answered that appointment of eye specialists is out of the organizational structure of the 100-bedded hospitals. But mobile eye specialist groups are making field trips to needy areas and assistant

eye specialists are being appointed.

With respect of the query on “**if there is any plan to add medical ethics subject, an extended subject, into the courses of Universities of Medicine, Universities of Nursing, University of Pharmacy, Universities of Medical Technology**”, presented by Defence Service Personnel Representative Major Myat Moe, the Union Minister answered that medical ethics subject had already been taught in the universities under the Medial Science De-partment.

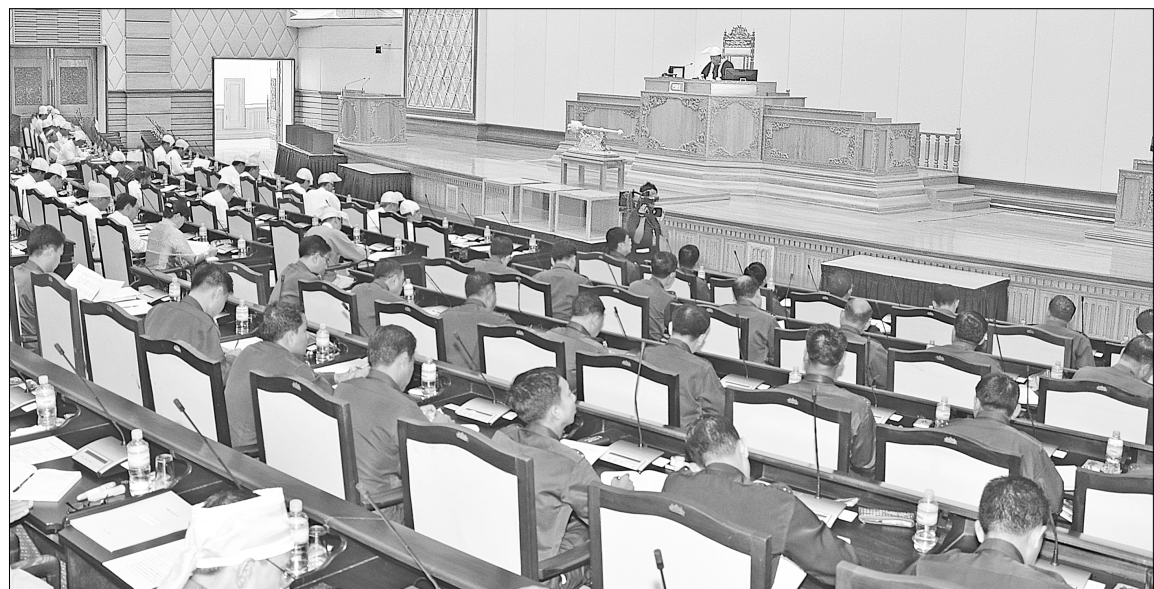
In response to the query on “**if there is any plan to Government Technical High School in Momeik Township for Mabein and Momeik Township**”, Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo said that at present, the ministry is in the process of promoting capacity building of universities and colleges under the ministry, and of producing skillful engineers and technical experts. Therefore, there is no plan to build a Government

Technical High School in Momeik. But that plan will be on the list at an opportune time. Regarding the query on “**How much benefit sanctuaries would being to regions and the State**” raised by U Hla Tun from Khamti Constituency, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun said that the benefits are

preservation of ecosystem, sustaining favourable environmental conditions, minimizing land disputes, reducing conflicts between human beings and animals, recording and conducting research on biodiversity, recording habitats of the wild animals, saving endangered species, curbing illegal trade of animals, developing

(See page 8)

Proposal on the bill amending Region or State Level officials’ emoluments, expenses and insignias submitted



Fifth regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw in progress.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—Fifth regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw continued for 2nd day, at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 209 MPs.

At the session, Deputy

Minister for Education U Aye Kyu replied to two educational questions.

With respect to the question of U Swe Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No.12 on “**if there is any plan to upgrade Basic Education Middle Schools (branch)**

in Hsaukwaingyi, Gyobyu model village and Thitkhaungyi villages in Taikkyi Township into Basic Education Middle Schools and to extend, repair and build 51 BEPSS there,” the deputy minister replied that at present there is no any plan to upgrade them

into BEMS as there are 149 students in BEMS (branch) in Hsaukwaingyi village and 123 students in BEMS (branch) in Thitkhaungyi village.

Gyobyu BEMS (branch) in Gyobyu model village-tract has been upgraded into (See page 8)

Bakri Eid Day on 27 October

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar government announced that as 12th Waxing of Thadingyut, 1374 ME

(Saturday, 27th October, 2012) is Bakri Eid Day, the Government Offices will be closed on that day under section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.—MNA

Myanmar, Japan eye closer ties

Pyithu
Hluttaw
Speaker
Thura
U Shwe
Mann
holds
talks
with
Mr
Hideo
Watanabe.
MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— Former member of the House of Councilors in the Diet of Japan and Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Hideo Watanabe and party paid a

call on Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann at Pyithu Hluttaw Complex here this afternoon. Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairpersons U Maung

Maung Thein, U Thein Swe and U Hla Myint Oo, secretaries U Aye Mauk, U Kyi Tha, U Khin Maung Oo and U Ko Ko Tun, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and officials of Hluttaw Office

were present at the call.

They frankly discussed matters related to deepening of friendship between the two countries and further cooperation in economy.

MNA

Community-based CMP development discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— "Recently US has lifted economic sanctions against Myanmar and EU gives back GSP to Myanmar. So it is the best time for development of CMP," said Chairman of CMP Supervisory Committee Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint, at Committee's third coordination meeting, at Ministry of Labour, here, yesterday.

an attempt to develop CMP, it should be done by mean of community-based system. Drafting strategy for Poverty alleviation is crucial for creating job opportunity. When foreign investments flow into the country, the country sees more job opportunities. So, Committee member are urged to give suggestion for CMP development.

After that, committee member deputy ministers,

officials from sub-committee, directors-general, joint secretary of Myanmar

Industrialists Association and those present gave suggestions.

MNA

Tax Service Unit opened in Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—The Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has opened Tax Service Unit for tax payers at No.59, Pansodan Street, Yangon from today onwards.

As Tax Service Unit would respond to the questions asked by local and foreign investors, foreign companies, INGOs, NGOs, visitors and people. If Tax Service Unit can't afford what the people know for the time being, it will reply to answer at once after taking approval of the Head Office. The Tax Service Unit made discussion on the tax rates laws, bylaws,

principles and notifications carried out by the Internal Revenue Department when the tax collectors or people are not satisfied with these matters. If necessary, it will provide for those who want to know the taxation with books related to tax. As such the people and tax staff are inconvenient with these matters, it will make complaint form for those people and reply them as soon as quickly.—MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Please read "Medicins du Mond'e is going to give Methadone treatment for 350 addicts by the end of 2012".—MAM

Formation of Public Service Media Governing Body

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has formed the Governing Body with the following persons hereunder in order to transform the three dailies- Myanma Alin, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar currently run by the Ministry of Information into Public Service Media-PSM under Notification No 72/2012 dated 18-10-2012.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| (a) U Ye Tint | Chairman |
| Kyemon Daily, Chief Editor (Retd) | |
| (b) U Ye Myint Pe | Member |
| Myanma Alin Daily, Chief Editor (Retd) | |
| (c) U Ye Naing Moe | Member |
| Journalism Expert | |
| (d) U Kyaw Zaw Naing | Member |
| Legal Expert | |
| (e) U Kyaw Soe | Secretary |
| Managing Director | |
| News and Periodicals Enterprise | |

The Governing Body will adopt necessary policies and programmes, draw necessary ethics and principles for newspapers and supervise the task for realization of principles of Public Service Media so as to transform Myanma Alin, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar to public service media.—MNA

Myanmar, China to promote agricultural, mines and trade sectors

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— A delegation led by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua had a cordial discussion with Union

Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Win Myint and Dr Myint Aung at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, here, this morning.

The meeting focused on further strengthening already-existed amity between two countries and promoting bilateral cooperation in the sectors of mines and trade as well as agriculture.—MNA

Region took part.

Among the audience were Chairman of Organizing Committee Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Ministers U Hset Aung, U Aung Than Oo and U Chan Maung, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union U Myint Aung and enthusiasts.

MNA

Performing Arts Competition goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — The 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competitions continued today at Yezin Universities' Campus on a grand scale.

A total of 8 contestants from States and Regions took part in higher level men's Maha Gita contest, and five in amateur level (first class) women's Maha Gita contest.

Altogether 15 contestants participated in basic level aged 15-20 women's old/modern song singing contest, and 15 in basic education level aged 5-10 boys' old/modern song singing contest and 11 in higher level men's old/modern song singing contest.

At amateur level (second class) men's dancing contest, 15 contestants showed their performances while 15 contestants competed in amateur level (second class) women's dancing contest.

Three contestants competed in amateur level (second class) religious stories narration contest. Fourteen contestants participated in amateur level second class (men's and women's) song composing contest under the theme of SEA Games.

Seven participants took part in basic level aged 5-10 women's solo Myanmar orchestra contest, five in higher level women's solo Myanmar orchestra contest and one in amateur level (first class) women's solo Myanmar orchestra contest.

Three troupes participated in amateur level (second class) women's orchestra contest, and four in higher level women's orchestra contest.

Five contestants took part in amateur level (first class) men's piano contest and three in amateur level (second class) women's piano contest.

Three troupes competed in basic level aged 15-20 men's short drum contest and seven troupes in amateur level (Second class) men's short drum contest. Five contestants took part in basic level (second class) women's xylophone contest, and six in amateur level (first class) men's xylophone contest.

The drama contest was held for the final day at the convocation hall of the University of Veterinary Science in the evening in which the troupe representing Ayeyawady



Ma Aye Nyein Zaw of Sagaing Region competes in solo orchestra contest.

MNA

Colombian government, FARC rebels to meet in Cuba for peace talks

Colombia

HURDAL, (Norway/Bogota), 19 Oct — Colombian government and leftist rebel negotiators agreed to meet in Cuba in mid-November to start what are likely to be thorny peace talks aimed at patching together an end to half a century of conflict, both sides said on Thursday.

Talks, which opened in Norway this week, are the latest in a long history of attempts to resolve the war which has left tens of thousands dead and

millions more displaced since the founding of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, in 1964.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos is betting that a decade of US-backed blows against the FARC has battered the group to the point it will seriously seek to end the fighting after so many previous efforts ended in shambles.

But in the first sign of discord, rebel leader Ivan Marquez slammed foreign

oil and mining interests in Colombia, saying their presence was destructive and should be discussed.

Humberto de la Calle, the government's lead negotiator, ruled that out. "The peace process will be successful if it is serious, realistic and efficient," de la Calle said in Hurdal, Norway.

"We are not discussing the model of economic development. We are not discussing foreign investment. For that to be discussed on the Colombian agenda, the FARC have to lay down their arms, enter politics and win elections," he said. In a carefully stage-managed event, Norwegian organizers were able to avoid what became a symbol of the failure of the last attempt at peace in 1999: a vacant chair.

Back then, a red-faced President Andres Pastrana sat next to the empty seat of FARC founder Manuel Marulanda, who failed to turn up.

This time, the two sides appeared jointly on Thursday at a plush hotel — the first

time they have met publicly in a decade.

The negotiators entered the conference room together, then sat at a table with representatives of Cuba and Norway between them. They did not talk or shake hands.

The government delegation sat stone-faced as Marquez spoke for half an hour following short opening remarks by de la Calle. The sides then held separate press conferences. The negotiations move to Cuba on November 15 and will begin a five-point agenda with discussions about rural development.

The last talks were held in a tent deep in the Colombian jungle. "The spirit of the agreement is clear and you don't need to find a theologian to interpret it. We'll work within the spirit," said FARC negotiator Jesus Santrich, wearing dark glasses and carrying a walking cane.

We are embracing this process and I would like to say to (de la Calle): 'take it easy, we're just starting.'"

Reuters



In this undated photo, a wind turbine feeds renewable electricity into the Ontario grid at the CNE grounds in Toronto.—REUTERS

S Korea among 5 new nonpermanent Security Council members

UNSC

NEW YORK, 19 Oct — South Korea was among the five countries elected on Thursday as nonpermanent members of the 15-member UN Security Council to serve two-year terms from 1 January, with President Lee Myung Bak hailing it as a big diplomatic breakthrough.

South Korea garnered 149 votes in the second round of voting in the General Assembly, beating Cambodia, which got only 43. Bhutan was eliminated in the first round. Argentina, Rwanda, Australia and Luxembourg were elected to the other four seats.—Kyodo News



General view of the exterior of the Hurdalsjoen hotel and conference centre where attempts at peace negotiations between FARC Marxist rebels and Colombian officials are taking place, in Hurdal on 18 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

US offers rewards for Iran-based al-Qaeda operatives

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct — The United States said on Thursday it was offering millions of dollars for information leading to the location of two al-Qaeda members accused of facilitating the movement of funds and operatives through Iran.

The Obama administration is offering up to \$7 million for information leading to the location of Iran-based financier Muhsin al-Fadhli, who was among the few al-Qaeda leaders who received advance notification of the 11 Sept, 2001 attacks, the State Department said.

Up to \$5 million is being offered for al-Fadhli's deputy, Adel Radi Saqr al-Wahabi al-Harbi, who is accused of working with a network that served as a pipeline for

al-Qaeda to move operatives and funds in South Asia and the Middle East.

The US Treasury also took action against al-Harbi, imposing financial sanctions that will prohibit US citizens from dealing with al-Harbi and freezing any assets he may have under US jurisdiction.

The Treasury had previously targeted six other members of the group in June 2011. Al-Fadhli was blacklisted by the Treasury in 2005.

We will continue targeting this crucial source of al Qaeda's funding and support, as well as highlight Iran's ongoing complicity in this network's operation," David Cohen, Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence, said in a statement.—Reuters

Diplomacy inbox fills up as UN awaits US presidential vote

UN

UNITED NATIONS, 19 Oct — As the United States prepares for a presidential election next month, thorny diplomatic issues like an arms trade treaty, the Palestinians' UN aspirations and talks on banning weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East have had to wait.

For months, UN officials and diplomats have complained privately that discussions at the United Nations aimed at resolving a range of problems have been delayed until after the 6 November election in which President Barack Obama, a Democrat, faces off against Republican contender Mitt Romney.

Some analysts and political pundits suggest US hegemony is waning. But the decision by UN member states to put important negotiations on hold shows the power and

influence of the United States at the United Nations. Such deference to a national election is unusual.

The stalemate at the UN Security Council over the conflict in Syria has not featured prominently in the US campaign, but might emerge as an issue in the final Obama-Romney debate on 22 October, which will focus on foreign policy.

Some analysts and diplomats say Obama's caution on Syria is partly driven by election concerns, but others say Washington has abandoned the UN track because of Damascus ally Russia's repeated vetoes of US

initiatives before the council.

A perennial touchy issue in US politics is gun control, a topic that came up in Tuesday's presidential debate. UN delegates and gun control activists said talks on a global treaty to regulate the \$60 billion arms trade collapsed because the Obama administration feared a political attack from Romney if it supported the pact.

The treaty negotiations at UN headquarters broke off without any agreement in July after the United States, Russia and a few other major arms producers, said it had problems with the draft treaty and asked for more time.

Washington wanted to "bump (the issue) down the road until after the election," in the words of a European diplomat. David Bosco of American University in Washington said: "The administration clearly feared that the treaty would become a major election issue for gun rights organizations and, with a few other countries, worked to ensure that it would not move anywhere until after the election."

Frank Jannuzi of Amnesty International echoed Bosco's views. Gun control is controversial in the United States, where the Constitution guarantees the right to bear arms.—Reuters

Japan, others propose reviving UN arms trade treaty talks in March

NEW YORK, 19 Oct — Britain, Japan and five other countries introduced a draft resolution on Thursday at a UN disarmament committee calling for convening a conference in March aimed at regulating international trade in conventional arms, after negotiations in July failed to reach an agreement.

Diplomatic sources said the resolution on the arms trade treaty — designed to keep such arms from those committing massacres and terrorism — has a strong chance of winning approval both at the First Committee on disarmament as well as at the General Assembly. While it may well resurrect negotiations

on the treaty, it remains to be seen whether negotiators will be able to reach an agreement, given the wide disparities in views among prospective participants and that like the July conference, a consensus of all participants, rather than a majority endorsement, is required for an accord.

Kyodo News



The United Nations headquarters building is pictured in Vienna on 28 March, 2012. REUTERS

IBM in talks to buy Israel mobile software firm

Red Bend

TEL AVIV, 19 Oct—IBM Corp (IBM.N) is in advanced talks to buy Israel-based Red Bend Software, a provider of mobile phone software, for \$200 million to \$250 million, Israeli media reported on Thursday.

Red Bend provides software for device management and mobile virtualization, technology that enables multiple operating systems to run simultaneously on a mobile phone. It helps cellular phone manufacturers speed up new embedded services, respond swiftly to faults and reduce support costs via remote up-

dates using the web.

The company has over 80 customers, including China Mobile, Intel, LG Electronics, Motorola, Qualcomm, Samsung Electronics, Sharp and Sony Ericsson.

Officials at Red Bend were not immediately available for comment. A spokeswoman at IBM Israel said the company does not comment on rumors and speculation.

The Calcalist financial newspaper said this would be IBM's 12th acquisition in Israel and its second in the mobile sector.

Reuters



The IBM logo is seen outside the company's offices in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv on 24 Oct, 2011.—REUTERS

Technology

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 Oct—A White House-ordered review of security risks posed by suppliers to US telecommunications companies found no clear evidence that Huawei Technologies Ltd had spied for China, two people familiar with the probe told Reuters.

Instead, those leading the 18-month review concluded early this year that relying on Huawei, the world's second-largest maker of networking gear, was risky for other reasons, such as the presence of vulnerabilities that hackers could exploit.

These previously unreported findings support parts of a landmark US congressional report last week that warned against allowing Chinese companies Huawei and ZTE Corp to supply critical telecom infrastructure.

But they may douse speculation that Huawei has been caught spying for China. Some questions remain unanswered. For example, it is unclear if security vulnerabilities found in Huawei equipment were placed there deliberately. It is also not clear whether any critical

White House-ordered review found no evidence of Huawei spying: sources



A man walks past a Huawei company logo outside the entrance of a Huawei office in Wuhan, Hubei province on 9 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

new intelligence emerged after the inquiry ended.

"The White House has not conducted any classified inquiry that resulted in clearing any telecom equipment supplier," White House National Security Council spokeswoman Caitlin Hayden said. She also noted that Huawei had been barred from participating in an emergency network for first responders a year ago "due to US government national security concerns".

A spokesman for China's foreign ministry called for a "level playing field" for

Chinese companies in overseas business. "As far as the report cited is concerned, it proves again that allegations against Huawei are unfounded," said foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei, when asked to comment on an earlier version of this story. At the White House's direction, according to people familiar with the matter, intelligence agencies and other departments conducted the largely classified inquiry, delving into reports of suspicious activity and asking detailed questions of nearly 1,000 telecom equipment buyers.

"We knew certain parts of government really wanted" evidence of active spying, said one of the people, who requested anonymity. "We would have found it if it were there."

A spokesman for Huawei said the company was not familiar with the review but it was not surprised that no evidence of Huawei espionage was found.

Last week's report from the Republican and Democratic leaders of the House Intelligence Committee noted the potential for spying through Huawei gear installed to manage traffic on wireless networks. The committee also criticized Huawei's leadership for failing to provide details about its relationships with Chinese government agencies.

Huawei, whose chief executive officer, Ren Zhengfei, founded it 25 years ago after he was laid off by the Chinese army, has rejected the House report as unfair and inaccurate. China's Commerce Ministry has also called the accusations "groundless".—Reuters

Science

New planet discovered in Earth's backyard

LONDON/CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA, 19 Oct—Astronomers have found a new planet, the closest yet outside our solar system and just an astronomical stone's throw away at four light years, raising the chances of finding a habitable planet in Earth's neighbourhood. Researchers say the new planet is too close to its sun to support known forms of life, with a surface temperature estimated at 1,200 degrees Celsius (2,192 Fahrenheit). But previous studies suggest that when one planet is discovered orbiting a sun, there are usually others in the same system.

The new Earth-sized planet, announced in science journal Nature by Stephane Udry and Xavier Dumusque at the Geneva Observatory, orbits one of the stars in Alpha Centauri, roughly 25 trillion miles away.

"It's a landmark discovery because it's very low mass and it's our closest neighbor," said Udry. "Its orbit is very close to its star and it must be much too hot for life as we know it but it may well be just one planet in a system of several."

Commenting on the find, University of California

astronomer Greg Laughlin said: "This is our backyard, so to find out that planet formation occurred there is just extraordinary."

Since the discovery of the first exoplanets — those outside our solar system — in the early 1990s, more than 800 have been found but this one is the closest to Earth.

Getting there is extremely unlikely in the foreseeable future. Laughlin estimates it would take about 40,000 years to travel to the new planet with current propulsion technology.

It was detected using the HARPS instrument on a telescope at the European Southern Observatory's La Silla site in Chile. The device is

able to pick up tiny changes in the color of the light coming from a host star as it wobbles under the gravitational influence of orbiting planets.

The gravitational effect in this case is minute, causing it to move back and forth by no more than 51 centimeters (20 inches) per second.

Alpha Centauri is a three-star system consisting of two stars similar to our sun and a faint red star called Proxima Centauri. The planet orbits Alpha Centauri B.

Astronomers have speculated about planets orbiting these stars since the 19th century but small planets like this are hard to find and instruments have only recently become sensitive enough to

detect them.

"Our observations extended over more than four years using the HARPS instrument" said Dumusque.

The researchers said they will make their data available to other astronomers to test their findings but in the meantime some remain skeptical.

"Actually, I still have my doubts," astronomer Artie Hatzes at Thuringian State Observatory in Tautenburg, Germany, told Reuters.

Hatzes said the wobble detected in the star could be caused by a series of other factors, including sun spots, so the data need to be tested by other researchers.

"These activity variations have to be filtered from the data before one can extract the signal due to the possible planet," he said. "It could well be that someone else analyzing the same data may come up with a different conclusion. That is why I am not 100 percent certain." But Dumusque is confident. "We have considered in this analysis all the known possible explanations, including instrumental noise and stellar origin. In the end, the planetary solution is the most likely one."—Reuters



This artist's impression shows the planet orbiting the star Alpha Centauri B, a member of the triple star system that is the closest to Earth in this image released on 17 October, 2012.—REUTERS



The Moon passes between the sun and the earth as viewed through coastal fog rolling in from the ocean in Encinitas, California on 20 May, 2012.—REUTERS

Harvard scientists suggest Moon made from Earth

ENCINITAS, CALIFORNIA, 19 Oct—A new theory put forward by Harvard scientists suggests the Moon was once part of the Earth that spun off after a giant collision with another body. In a paper published on Wednesday in the journal Science, Sarah Stewart and Matija Čuk said their theory would explain why the Earth and Moon have similar composition and chemistry.

The Earth was spinning much faster at the time the Moon was formed, and a day lasted only two to three hours, they said.

With the Earth spinning so quickly, a giant impact could have launched enough of the Earth's material to form a moon, the scientists said in an explanation published on a Harvard

website. www.fas.harvard.edu/~planets/sstewart/Moon.html According to the new theory, the Earth later reached its current rate of spinning through gravitational interaction between its orbit around the Sun and the Moon's orbit around Earth. The scientists noted that their proposition differed from the current leading theory, which holds that the Moon was created from material from a giant body that struck the Earth.

Stewart is a professor of earth and planetary sciences at Harvard, and Čuk, an astronomer and an investigator at the SETI Institute, which supports research into the search for extraterrestrial life. The latter was conducting post-doctoral research at Harvard.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Sales stumbles raise fresh worry for corporate America Business



Workers prepare a new housing lot at a construction site in Alexandria, Virginia on 17 Oct, 2012. REUTERS

Business

Housing starts surge in positive sign for economy

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct—Groundbreaking on new homes surged in September to its fastest pace in more than four years, a sign the housing sector's budding recovery is gaining traction and supporting the wider economic recovery.

Housing starts increased 15 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 872,000 units, beating even the most optimistic forecasts on Wall Street, Commerce Department data showed on Wednesday.

It was the quickest pace of groundbreaking since July 2008, though data on starts is volatile and subject to substantial revisions.

America's economy has shown signs of faster growth in recent months as the jobless rate has fallen and retail sales data has pointed to stronger consumer spending.

Wednesday's data showed that housing, which was battered by the 2007-09 recession, is increasingly one of the brighter spots in the economy.

"One of the big headwinds for the economy has been the weak housing market and this indicates that headwind has dissipated," said Gary Thayer, an economic strategist at Wells Fargo Advisors in St. Louis, Missouri.

Reuters

BOSTON, 19 Oct—A flagging world economy took a toll on much of Corporate America in the third quarter, leading the likes of eBay Inc, American Express, IBM and Textron Inc to miss Wall Street's sales targets or warn that spending was slowing into the holidays.

Those misses sparked concerns among investors that corporate America's year-long streak of profit growth could be nearing an end as CEOs run out of costs to cut and customers are increasingly wary about spending.

A major worry is the risk of the year-end fiscal cliff — \$600 billion of spending cuts and higher taxes that could take effect at the end of the year if lawmakers in Washington fail to agree on a plan to shrink the federal deficit.

A majority - 54.3 percent — of the 70 companies in the widely watched Standard & Poor's 500 Index that have reported results so far have missed analysts' revenue forecasts, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

The list of companies' reasons for weak performance has expanded, with some citing a decline in demand in the United States — until recently a more reliable

source of growth — as well as in Europe, which is mired in a debt crisis.

American Express warned that its cardmembers' spending was starting to wane. After nine quarters of double-digit growth, spending among its mostly affluent customer base grew just 8 percent in the last quarter. The online marketplace eBay beat estimates, but analysts said the magnitude was unimpressive and the holiday outlook cautious as price competition increases among retailers.

International Business Machines Corp, the world's largest technology services company, missed analysts' sales forecasts for a fifth consecutive time with a 5 percent drop in the third quarter, as corporate customers in the United States and Canada cut their spending on equipment and services.

"When I look at our skew of business in the quarter, through the first two months, our revenue was fairly consistent with our second-quarter performance," IBM's Chief Financial Officer Mark Loughridge told investors after the company reported earnings late Tuesday. "The third month of the quarter was more challenging."

Chipmaker Intel Corp also said lower corporate spending hurt its revenue, which was down 5 percent for the quarter. It set a fourth-quarter sales target that was below analysts' forecasts.

While troubles in the tech sector reflect in part a lack of corporate confidence, with companies holding back on committing to major new investments, soft drink makers PepsiCo and

of a price war," CEO Indra Nooyi said.

The company, which also makes Frito-Lay snacks and Tropicana orange juice, also noted that the strong dollar hurt its results by decreasing the value of sales made outside the United States. Many major US companies with international operations have cited the strong dollar as a drag on growth this year.



Cases of Pepsi are displayed for sale in Carlsbad, California in this 7 Feb, 2012 file photo. —REUTERS

Coca-Cola Co also reported weaker-than-expected revenue.

PepsiCo said on Wednesday that its sales in the Americas were down about 3 percent in the quarter, which partly reflected its decision to stop selling some juices and bottled water packages after "a hell

Drugmaker Abbott Laboratories also reported weaker-than-expected revenue after its sales slipped 0.4 percent to \$9.77 billion in the quarter.

No 2 oilfield services company Halliburton Co said slowing US drilling took a toll on its profit in the quarter.—Reuters

FDA finds fungus in steroid shots, meningitis toll rises Health

NEW YORK/LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct—US health officials made their first confirmation of the presence of a deadly fungus in one of three lots of steroids tied to a national meningitis outbreak as the death toll rose to 20 on Thursday.

The US Food and Drug Administration said it was still testing two additional lots of methylprednisolone acetate, the steroid used to treat back pain, for the presence of the rare Exserohilum fungus.

It is also testing other injectable drugs that were supplied by the New England Compounding Centre, or NECC, in Massachusetts.

"Now we can definitively say that the injections are linked to the infection," Dr Tom Chiller, an epidemiologist with the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, told Reuters in an interview. "To date, CDC has no firm evidence of infection in any patients beyond those exposed to the contaminated lots."

THE CDC said the



Federal agents search New England Compounding Centre in Framingham, Massachusetts on 16 Oct, 2012. REUTERS

death toll climbed by one to 20, while nine new cases brought the national total to 254, including the first in New York — the 16th state with confirmed infections.

Michigan reported its fourth fungal meningitis death and new cases were also reported in Indiana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio and Tennessee. There are also three cases of peripheral infections in joints, the CDC said.

"There were a lot more

spinal injections performed versus joint injections, but the infection rate may also reflect the fact that joint infections might be slower or the incubation period could be longer ... we just don't know," Chiller said.

About 14,000 patients are believed to have been exposed to the potentially tainted NECC steroid and some 97 percent of them have been contacted so far, the FDA and CDC said.

Reuters

Brent crude steady above \$113 on hopes of China rebound Business

SINGAPORE, 19 Oct—Brent futures held above \$113 on Thursday, buoyed by hopes for a rebound in year-end economic growth in China, the world's second-biggest oil consumer, and with simmering tension in the Middle East providing additional support.

China's economy expanded 7.4 percent in the quarter to September from a year earlier. That was its slowest pace since the first quarter of 2009 and was in line with a Reuters forecast. But other data released on Thursday suggested that the worst may be over and that the world's No 2 economy will pick up in the final quarter.

Brent had gained 33 cents to \$113.55 a barrel by 0456 GMT, after settling 78 cents lower at \$113.22. US oil rose 2 cents to \$92.14, after ending 3 cents higher.

"While the overall GDP numbers were in line with expectations, retail sales, industrial output and other numbers are stronger if you look at the break down," said Ben Le Brun, a market

analyst at OptionsXpress in Sydney.

"I would expect a continuation of the momentum on the back of these numbers."

China's refinery throughput in September rose 7 percent from a year earlier to a record daily rate of 9.43 million barrels, after new refining capacity came on stream. Daily runs were around 6 percent, or 540,000 barrels-per-day (bpd), higher than the 8.89 million bpd in

August.

Supply disruption concerns stemming from Iran's disputed nuclear programme are also putting a floor under oil prices.

In another sign of Teheran defying international demands to curb its nuclear program, Western diplomats said Iran was believed to be increasing its uranium enrichment capacity at its Fordow plant buried deep underground.

Reuters



A man fills his truck up with gas at a gas station in Santa Monica, California recently. REUTERS



A Nissan Motor Co car equipped with automated steering avoids a dummy during a demonstration in Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, on 12 Oct, 2012. Nissan said on 17 Oct that it has developed the advanced technology to help motorists avoid accidents.—REUTERS

Man arrested in New York bomb plot has student visa, confirms official

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct — A Bangladesh man arrested for alleged plot to bomb the Federal Reserve bank in New York City entered the United States with a student visa issued in December, a State Department official confirmed on Thursday. “Let me start by confirming that the suspect did have a student visa to attend a legitimate academic program in the United States for which he was qualified,” said State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland at a regular briefing.

“Visa decisions are made in accordance with applicable law and department regulations,” she told reporters, adding that each application is looked at by case basis, taking into account “all of the information contained in the US government databases.”

Quazi Mohammad

Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, 21, was arrested on Wednesday in a sting operation by US federal authorities for alleged plot to bomb the Federal Reserve bank in Lower Manhattan, New York City. He was captured while trying to detonate what he believed to be a 1,000-pound bomb in front of the Fed building on Liberty Street. The fake bomb was provided to him by an undercover agent. Nafis arrived in the United States in January.

He had tried to recruit people in the US to help him conduct the terror attack. Nafis appeared at a federal court in Brooklyn Wednesday to face charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to provide material support to al-Qaeda. He was ordered held without bail.—Xinhua

Tennessee clinic linked to meningitis scare closed after outbreak

NASHVILLE, 19 Oct — The Tennessee clinic that received more potentially tainted steroid than any facility in the nation has been closed temporarily as it struggles to cope with an avalanche of patient calls about the deadly meningitis outbreak, its administrator said. The Saint Thomas Outpatient Neurosurgery Centre in Nashville received 2,000 vials of the steroid from a Massachusetts company. The drug was shipped to 76 facilities in 23 states.

Twenty people have died, including three at the hospital where the clinic is located, and 254 contracted fungal meningitis traced to vials from New England Compounding Centre used mainly for epidural injections to ease back pain. Tennessee has more confirmed cases

than any other state. The Nashville clinic was one of the first to notice its patients were suffering from severe headaches and other symptoms. The clinic, which administered about 5,000 epidural injections a year for back pain, closed on 20 September and has not reopened. “We started out with 300 phone calls a day and now we are getting 40 or 50. As long as these phone calls are coming in, we are not comfortable to be open,” Scott Butler, administrator of the clinic, said in an interview on Wednesday. “I would never want somebody who called in, in pain, to be told ‘We’re working here. We’ll call you back.’” Butler said. It is still not clear how much of the clinic’s medication was tainted with a fungus. The Tennessee

Department of Health said 477 of the 2,520 vials shipped to three facilities in the state, including Saint Thomas clinic, were not used.

Reuters



Employees of the Shizuoka city government and local residents, in Shizuoka city on 18 Oct, 2012, measure levels of airborne radiation from incinerated debris generated in the town of Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture, by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Four Shizuoka municipalities the same day started receiving shipments of debris from Iwate Prefecture for disposal.—REUTERS

Judge questions WTC blame of United Airlines in 11 September case

US

NEW YORK, 19 Oct — A judge on Thursday questioned whether United Airlines could be held responsible for suspected airport security lapses that allowed hijackers onto the American Airlines plane that slammed into the World Trade Centre on 11 Sept, 2001.

Thursday’s hearing before District Judge Alvin Hellerstein in Manhattan stems from one of the few remaining lawsuits arising from the hijacked plane attacks, which killed more than 3,000 people in New York, the Pentagon outside Washington, and Pennsylvania.

While most of the cases have settled, Larry Silverstein, the leaseholder of the World Trade Centre property, is pursuing negligence claims against United Airlines, now United Continental Holdings Inc, and American Airlines.

Silverstein says they should both be held liable for loss of property and business. Silverstein’s World Trade Centre Properties is seeking additional damages beyond what he has already received from his own insurer.

The hearing on Thursday dealt only with claims over the destruction of 7 World Trade Centre, a building just north of the World Trade Centre site that also collapsed in the attacks.

Silverstein argues that United is responsible for suspected security failures

that resulted in the hijacking of American Airlines Flight 11, which slammed into one of the towers.

Those failures, the court heard on Thursday, began very early in the morning of 11 Sept, 2011, when hijackers Mohammed Atta and Abdul Aziz al Omari set out on their trip.

That morning, Atta and al Omari boarded a US Airways flight from Maine’s Portland International Jetport to Boston. From Logan International Airport, they connected onto Flight 11, which they commandeered and crashed into the World Trade Centre.

Silverstein argues that because United was one of the carriers that operated Portland’s only security checkpoint, it is responsible for the screening of all passengers that passed through it, regardless of what flight they are ticketed for. United “had to be really vigilant when it did the screening,” World Trade Centre Properties attorney Richard Williamson told the court. “The first line of defense was Portland... They were just asleep at the switch.”

But Hellerstein appeared skeptical. “Would I be acting inconsistently if I did not dismiss United?” the judge asked, referring to a 2009 order in which he dismissed claims against other airlines for damages caused by United Flight 175, which also crashed into the

World Trade Centre. United urged Hellerstein to follow his own logic.

“The duty is to the passengers on our flights,” United attorney Jeffrey Ellis told the court.

Hellerstein said he would reserve decision on whether to grant United’s bid to dismiss the damage claims over 7 World Trade Centre and the American flight. Judges often do not rule immediately from the bench, preferring to study the issues especially if they are complex. Silverstein’s 2008 lawsuit also named aircraft manufacturer Boeing Co, the Massachusetts Port Authority, which manages Logan International Airport, and security companies as defendants. He is seeking \$8.4 billion in damages for loss of property and lost business, even though Hellerstein has limited the amount to the \$2.8 billion

Silverstein paid for the leases.

In August, Hellerstein denied the airlines’ motion for judgment on whether \$4 billion that Silverstein recovered from his insurers more than compensated for the potential damages against the airlines, saying it was an issue for a jury to decide at trial.

The attacks prompted the creation of the US Transportation Security Administration, which now oversees security at airport checkpoints.

Hellerstein, who sits in a courthouse less than a mile from the World Trade Center site, has presided over almost all 11 September litigation.

Many of those lawsuits, including cases brought by relatives of those killed, people left injured, first responders, cleanup workers and businesses, have been settled.—Reuters



A logo is pictured on a wall during a news conference announcing the merger between Continental Airlines and United Airlines in New York, on 3 May, 2010.

REUTERS

Explosive device goes off near Syrian Interior Ministry in capital

Syria

DAMASCUS, 19 Oct — An explosive device went off Thursday afternoon near the Syrian Interior Ministry in the capital Damascus, causing only material

damages, sources and media reports said. and the Interior Ministry in Kafarsouseh district, the sources said.

The state-news agency SANA said the minor explosion had caused material damages only.

The explosion marked a new trend in using bicycles to carry out blasts after the Syrian authorities have maximized the security measures in Damascus, ringing all the governmental buildings with blast walls and increasing the number of checkpoints at the entrances of Damascus and in some sensitive streets inside of it, causing suffocating traffic jams. Separately, the pro-government Sham FM radio said about 200 armed rebels were killed on Thursday during clashes with government troops in the northwestern province

of Idlib. It said the Syrian troops have closed in on armed groups at Ma’arat al-Numan town in Idlib, adding that those armed men are being chased by the troops.

In another account, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an activists’ network, said that a Syrian fighter jet bombed on Thursday the town of Deir Sharqi in Idlib, destroying a field hospital and 12 neighbouring houses, adding that no casualties have been reported since the hospital and the houses had been evacuated earlier. Another activists’ network, the Local Coordination Committees (LCC), said that 30 people were killed on Thursday in Ma’arat al-Numan by the government troops.

Xinhua

Myanmar, Japan to move a step forward in bilateral cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received former member of the House of Councilors in the Diet of Japan and Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Hideo Watanabe and party at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall this noon.

Present on the occasion were chairpersons of Amyotha Hluttaw committees, officials of Hluttaw Office and personnel of Japan Embassy.

They frankly discussed matters related economic cooperation, loan reduction, technical assistance and strengthening of ties between the two countries. —MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint poses for documentary photo together with Mr Hideo Watanabe and party.
MNA



Myanmar parliamentary delegation to attend 127th IPU

YANGON, 19 Oct—The Myanmar parliamentary delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa left here yesterday to attend the 127th Inter-Parliamentary Union to be held in Quebec,

Canada.

The delegation comprising Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Peasant Committee U Win Naung and member of Pyithu Hluttaw Public Accounts Committee and Rule of Law

and Tranquility Committee Daw Mi Yin Chan was seen off by Yangon Region Deputy Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Aung and personnel at Yangon International Airport.

MNA

All urged to carry out good manner for health of the people: Dy Health Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—Jointly-organized by the Health Department under the Ministry of Health and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the concluding ceremony for workshop on Communication for Development Training Programming & Monitoring in Behavior & Social Change was took place at Thingaha Hotel here yesterday evening.

At the ceremony, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay said that dissemination on health knowledge is needed for the people in rural area; staffs from health department and associated departments are responsible to be behaved with good manner. All are urged to carry out good manner for health of the people, she added.

The course has arranged by Advisor to United Nations Children's Fund Mr. Guy Scandlen who has experienced in communications services for development of Asia and Pacific region.

The course was attended by health department and organizations under United Nations, social organizations and officials from media.

MNA

Commercial billboards withdrawn from Zaygyo Market

MANDALAY, 19 Oct—As Mandalay City Development Committee does not allow commercial billboards that put cover on beauty and grand images of Zaygyo Market which is one of the significant symbols of

Mandalay City.

The commercial billboards took places on overpass near the Zaygyo Market, on 84th, 26th and 28th streets.

In consequence, tourists could not take photos at the market clearly and openly.

If it natural disaster hit, the billboards might affect the shoppers.

At present, the billboards are being withdrawn.

The MCDC will allow same size signboards for the entrepreneurs.

Kyemon



National Level Mines and Mineral Development Workshop held

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—“Myanmar, stunningly beautiful country covering with flora and fauna and forest has enough space for booming economy, earning achievement in all round development through stability of the state, optimistic economic outlooks and equality of relationship among people in the near future”, said Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung at National Level Mines and Mineral

Development Workshop held at Mani Yadana Hall of Myanma Gems Museum here this morning.

Chairman of Mines and Mineral Resources Affairs Committee of Amyotha Hluttaw U Nay Win Tun explained the tasks for development of mines sector carried out by the committee. He then made discussion on mineral exploration including gold.

Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission

Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein fulfilled the requirement reported by the entrepreneurs working with Myanma Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association. The entrepreneurs working together with Myanma Pearl Production and Dealer's Association, Myanma Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise, Nos 1, 2 and 3 Mining Enterprises made clarifications.

MNA

Formation of political party allowed

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — While the Union Election Commission is scrutinizing and allowing applications for formation

of political parties, the application for formation of National Democratic Party for Human Rights applied by 22 members including

U Khin Zaw was allowed today as the political party is in conformity with law and bylaws.

MNA

Over 5000 visitors pass through Muse Palace Gate daily



MUSE, 19 Oct—Friendly relations and trade are in promotion day by day. About 5000 to 6000 people enter and depart between China and Myanmar through Palace Gate in Muse which is a border exit in Myanmar.

Of them, about 3000 people make a day trip.

Most of the visitors are traders and workers. Those visitors are holding the passports. Moreover, over 250 people apply new passports daily.

Those holding a day trip are for trading. The visa holders make trips to Ruili and Jegong of China and Lashio and Mandalay of Myanmar.

Kyemon

Relief and Resettlement Department posts website

YANGON, 19 Oct—As part of efforts to enable people to take preventive measures against natural disasters in time and enjoy various subjects of knowledge, the Department of Relief and Resettlement posts an Internet website for the public. The website presents duty and functions

of the department, weather forecasts, documentary photos, forecasts on storms, earthquakes, outbreak of fire and floods and preparedness works. The website of the department links with 14 ministries. The Internet users may visit www.rrdmyanmar.com.

Kyemon

District News

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 20 October, 2012

Thadingyut

When light showers alternate with bright sunshine the whole day accompanied by clouds glowing with reflected light at sunset, it is obvious that the monsoon will soon be over. When there comes the warning against explosion of firecrackers through radio and television, everyone, child or adult, knows that Thadingyut is very near.

Thadingyut, the seventh month of Myanmar calendar, marks the end of long rainy days. After four months of rain, everyone is looking forward to the warmth of glorious sunshine which Thadingyut would bring to him.

Thadingyut in addition to being a month of religious significance for Myanmar people is also a month of weddings, perhaps the happiest time for modern Adam who could afford to say 'I do' at wedding reception after throwing a stag party with eager anticipation. But, those without cash in hand or in bank account find it difficult to evade the question of his romantic rib-turned-creature, "When in the world are we getting married?"

Marital bliss is just for those who have found his other half and dare to face the stiff challenges of ever-rising commodity prices whereas bachelors and spinsters, either because of a vow of celibacy or any other reasons like having missed the first love, find themselves in the middle of marital crisis and under the perceived verbal attack of others like, "When exactly are we (at your wedding party) going to have the feast?" Nothing but to wear a wry smile can bachelors and spinsters do who feel ill at ease under the scorching sun of mid October.

Marriage in Myanmar means more than a social commitment couples make to be together for good, it has connotations like loyalty, sharing joy and sorrow and for better or worse. The global changes are no exception in moral and social values. But, we still hope that weddings at Thadingyut or any time in Myanmar society will break up never and stand to the test of time forever.

What is zebra crossing for? To bar pedestrians from crossing the road?



Cartoon
Maung Maung Lay 2012

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

PYITHU HLUTTAW

Myanmar enjoys GSP with retroactive...

(from page 1)
ecotourism, facilitating socioeconomic development of local people and acquiring technology and fund from local and international organizations and handing down these sanctuaries to the next generation as natural heritages.

With respect to the query on "Is there any plan to give permits, as a special programme, to the owners of unlicensed vehicles that were seized by the Government in 2005?" presented by U Thein Tun from Amarapura Constituency, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan answered that the Government is issuing import permits to the owners who swapped. And

all citizens who have letter of credits have been given rights to import each small luxury car.

With respect to the query on "Can the 22-wheel vehicles with six axis regain a chance to load a total of 55 tons (vehicle+cargo) in line with ASEAN standard?" presented by U Myint Soe from Pyawbwe Constituency, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Zeyar Aung answered that allowing those to carry cargos while restricting overloaded vehicles was a relaxation. According to ASEAN standard, the 22-wheel vehicles with six axis would be relaxed till a total of 48 tons. But at present, those in the country are allowed to load till a total of 50.5 tons like those

in Thailand, one of the neighbouring countries. In 2015, those in the country would be allowed to load till 48 tons in line with ASEAN standard.

Though U Soe Win from Sangyaung Constituency had decided to submit a proposal to ask the Hluttaw for GSP to Myanmar in a consensus among the public, he withdrew the proposal due to the current situation. The Hluttaw decided to record his proposal.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan presented reports on the present conditions of Myanmar about Generalized System of Preference (GSP).

Before 1997, Myanmar enjoyed GSP given by EU. At present, after the new Government has been in office in Myanmar, ILO sees Myanmar in a positive sense

due to progress of reforms. As a result, EU has allowed Myanmar to regain GSP. That case was agreed at the EU Commission Meeting held on 17 September. Therefore, from the beginning of the year 2013, Myanmar will be enjoying GSP, said officials concerned.

Besides, Myanmar will be supplied with retroactive benefit for exports after the time when ILO eased bans on Myanmar on 13 June, 2012.

With respect to the bill on job opportunities and capacity building, sent by Amyotha Hluttaw, Member of the Bill Committee Dr Soe Moe Aung submitted the report of the committee to the Hluttaw.

The today's meeting came to an end at 11:45 am, and continued its third day's session at 1 pm on 22 October.

MNA

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Proposal on the bill amending Region...

(from page 1)
BEMS on 5-10-2012. In 2013-2014 financial year, there are 11 schools to be extended, five schools to be reconstructed, six to be repaired and two schools to be equipped with science labs in Taikkyi Township. Plans are under way to build new five schools and repair ten schools.

After that, the deputy minister submitted the lists of schools that are repaired yearly with the use of capital expenditures. Regarding the question of U Paw Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9 "if there is any plan to upgrade Ohnwah BEMS in Sedoktara Township into BEHS (branch)," the deputy minister replied that there is no any plan to upgrade it into BEHS (branch) at present as the school has 69 students only.

With respect to the

New transformer for over 300 houses in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 19 Oct— The transformer installed in Kyunbintha Ward of Myitkyina launched supply of electricity to Region 8 of the ward as of 4 pm on 15 October. The transformer supplies electricity to over 300 houses of nine regions

question of U Paw Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9 on "if there is any plan to carry out educational development for local people and students as some of the villages that are estimated to be under water due to Mon dam did not face flood," the deputy minister said that officials from No. Basic Education Department have made field trip to these villages and BEPSs. It was found that mobile schools are opened in nine villages that did not make move. Plans are under way to upgrade these schools into BEPS (Branch) in the coming 2013-2014 academic year.

Regarding the question of U Win Thein of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.9 on "if there is any plan to upgrade BEMS (branch) in Mauchaung village

in the ward.

Township Electrical Engineer's Office, Buga Electricity Supply Co, Ward Administrator, Electricity Supply Committee Chairman and local people supervised the installation of transformer with the use of heavy machinery through contribution of the local people.—Kyemon

in Phayachaung village-tract, Pantanaw Township into BEMS," the deputy minister replied that at present, there is no any plan to upgrade it as the school has 108 students only.

Arrangements are being made to upgrade one BEHS, one in BEHS (branch) and 14 BEPSs in Pantanaw Township in the coming 2013-2014 Academic year.

With respect to the question of U Win Thein of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.9 on "if there is any plan to upgrade BEHS (branch) in Pyalin-Meinmapyay village in Meinmapyay Township into BEHS," the deputy minister said that the green light has been given to upgrade into BEHS on 9-9-2012.

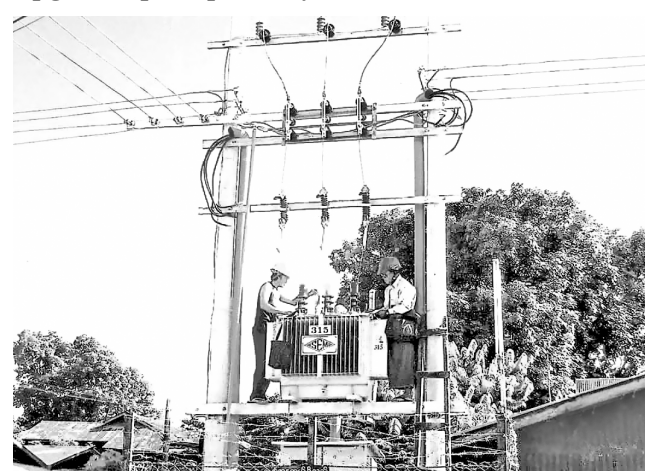
Regarding the question of U Maung Sein of Taninthayi Region Constituency No.5 on "if there is any plan to upgrade post-primary

school in Ayekani village in Yaybyu township, Taninthayi Region, into BEMS (Branch)," the deputy minister replied that the school has got blessing to upgrade into BEMS (Branch) on 5-10-2012.

Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung submitted the proposal urging Amyotha Hluttaw to discuss the bill amending the Region or State Level officials' emoluments, expenses and insignias, which is sent by the Union Government Office. And it was seconded and discussed by U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.6.

After that, the Hluttaw Speaker announced that Hluttaw has agreed to discuss that proposal. Those who want to discuss it are to register along with their brief description not later than 24-10-2012. The meeting came to an end at 10:30 am, and the third day session will go on at 1 pm on 22 October.

MNA



ARTICLE

In informing Myanmar, a junta mouthpiece gets a makeover

The New Light of Myanmar has an image problem. That's putting it mildly.

Created in 1993 as the mouthpiece of a military junta, the newspaper once described democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi as "obsessed by lust and superstition," while praising the achievements of generals who kept Myanmar in poverty and fear. Its nickname was "The New Lies of Myanmar."

Now, with the junta gone and a reformist government in power, the mouthpiece is getting a makeover.

"Feel free to ask me any question! We are very transparent now!" cries Than Myint Tun, its affable, betel-nut-chewing editor-in-chief during a Reuters tour of the state-run newspaper, the first by the international media.

The New Light is the country's only English-language daily — but not for long. Among its reforms since taking power last year, Myanmar's quasi-civilian government has effectively scrapped censorship, boosting an already vibrant weekly newspaper scene. It will allow the publication of privately owned dailies from early 2013.

With competition looming, the long-derided New Light is battling for relevance and readers.

Hate-filled propaganda has been replaced by lively editorials and entertainment news. Cartoons that once showed Suu Kyi as a toothless

crone now comment on hot issues such as political transparency and the popularity of Western dress.

And a black-and-white newspaper notorious for leaving its readers with inky fingers is finally experimenting with colour. All editions of the New Light and its Burmese-language sister titles, Myanma Alin and Kyemon, will appear in colour by mid-December.

The overhaul is part of an ambitious plan to revamp Myanmar's lacklustre state-run television and print media with a public service mandate.

"When the media is too commercialised it will fail to present the interests of vulnerable groups, such as ethnic minorities, women and youth," Ye Htut, Myanmar's Deputy Minister of Information, told Reuters. "So that area should be covered by the state media." "SKYFUL OF LIES"

Reforming an Orwellian propaganda organ won't be easy. The New Light has few resources, no journalistically trained staff, and an office located a 40-minute drive from the already isolated capital Nay Pyi Taw.

Than Myint Tun, 50, graduated in English from Mandalay University, then spent 14 years in the army before leaving in 2000 to join the newspaper. "I'm ex-army," he says, before introducing other members of the 26-strong editorial team. "He was a veterinarian. He was an engineer." He

flashes a ragged smile. "We are very strange men."

Today, the newspaper might feel like a student rag overseen by eccentrics — in a field. But in the past, under the junta, it was dreary and vicious.

Most stories and photographs showed retired dictator Than Shwe or his fellow generals inspecting roads and bridges, receiving blessings from Buddhist monks or lecturing morose-looking civilians.

The newspaper called Suu Kyi a woman who "swings around a bamboo

accused her of committing "acts counter to democracy."

Then, in 2007, dozens of people were killed after pro-democracy protests led by Buddhist monks were crushed by soldiers and police with live ammunition, savage beatings and mass arrests. The newspaper claimed security forces had used "the least force to disperse the mob" and blamed the unrest on "hot-blooded monks."

Reforming the state-run media will mean winning back a deeply suspicious public. "People see the state

By Andrew R.C. Marshall

pole brushed with cess", routinely denounced the Western media ("VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies"), and exhorted readers to "crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy."

It also put a favourable spin on the junta's well-documented human rights abuses.

In 2003, for instance, hundreds of government thugs attacked Suu Kyi's convoy at the northern town of Depayin. At least four of her bodyguards were killed, said Human Rights Watch, with credible reports of dozens more deaths. Amid global outrage, the junta put Suu Kyi under house arrest again and didn't release her until November 2010.

The newspaper claimed Suu Kyi's supporters had hurled stones at locals staging a peaceful protest and

media as just a government mouthpiece," says Deputy Minister Ye Htut. "We have to change this perception. That's our major challenge."

He believes the newspaper also has a "unique role" to play in informing the world about Myanmar's transformation.

SEX, DRUGS AND CRIME Some stories in the new-look New Light remain stultifyingly parochial ("Lost air-conditioner found in paddy field"). Others have dubious news value ("Religious Affairs Minister deals with religious matters").

Increasingly, however, the newspaper provides a daily snapshot of a once-isolated nation undergoing rapid change.

There are reports of deadly road accidents, a by-product of a recent surge in car imports, and frequent stories on drug busts as Myanmar struggles to contain

a home-grown epidemic of methamphetamine use.

Crime was a taboo topic under the former junta, which liked to laud the peace and stability of its rule. Now, stories range from major timber rackets to minor roadside robberies.

The newspaper also translates the proceedings of Myanmar's surprisingly feisty parliament.

With no native English speakers on staff, spelling mistakes abound. A recent report misspelled the word "tical," an archaic unit of mass equivalent to about 16 grams or half an ounce. Thus a man was robbed of a necklace "weighing three tickles."

Its reporters rarely report. Instead, they sit and translate articles from Myanma Alin, Kyemon and the Myanmar News Agency, whose offices occupy the same compound.

"It's all about translating. Just translating," says Thet Ko Ko, 26, who joined the newspaper five years ago. "And when parliament is in session, we have to work seven days a week."

The New Light owes its far-flung location to strict zoning rules that banish factories - including printing presses - from the city centre. Built from scratch under the former junta, Nay Pyi Taw is already a five-hour drive north of the commercial capital Yangon. While its youthful reporters grumble about the isolation, its middle-aged editors claim to enjoy country life.

"I like the peace and quiet," says Than Myint Tun. Even so, he camps out at the office because he finds his government-issue apartment nearby too lonely without his wife and three daughters, who live in Yangon.

There are plans to move the newsroom closer to Nay Pyi Taw and re-open editorial offices in Yangon.

HOLD THE FRONT PAGE Junta-era editorial policies still hold sway. State-run newspapers must report, in dutifully numbing detail, the movements of top officials. When Myanmar was a global pariah, its military leaders didn't travel much, their movements restricted by Western visa bans.

But Myanmar's reformist President Thein Sein is a globetrotter, and the newspaper must dedicate acres of newsprint to covering his recent trips to China, the United States and South Korea.

Recently, the president shared the headlines with Suu Kyi, whose September trip to the United States was proudly covered by Myanmar's state-run media, another radical department from the old days.

A total of 13,000 copies are printed daily and, with colour pages attracting new advertisers, the newspaper hopes one day to be financially self-sufficient. Than Myint Tun is clearly dreaming big.

"I have a question," he says. "What do you think of the paparazzi? Should their photos have a place in a newspaper?"

News in Brief

Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project under inspection

Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myint Zaw inspected progress of Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project being implemented by

Hydropower Implementation Department, 26 miles east of Pinyin on 16 October. The project upon completion will generate 454 million kwh yearly.

Seminar on Disaster Medicine held

The Knowledge Sharing Seminar on Disaster Medicine, jointly organized by Ministry of Health and Japan

International Cooperation Agency (JICA), took place at Myat Tawwin Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 October morning.

Project of Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone discussed

The workshop on Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone Project was held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road in Yangon on 15 October morning, attended by Chairman of the Management Committee for

the Zone Deputy Minister for Labour U Myint Thein, Chairman of Thilawa Special Economic Zone Management Committee Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Hset Aung and others.

Hledan overpass to give better transport service to people soon

YANGON, 19 Oct— An overpass is under construction at the Hledan junction on Pyay Road in Kamayut which is one of the most traffic jams in Yangon City for ensuring smooth transport of local people.

The construction is being jointly undertaken by Yangon City Development Committee and Shwedaung Development Company.

The stake driven ceremony was held on 11 March morning. So far, the overpass has been built for seven months.

Six concrete posts have completed on Pyay Road of Myenigon side. Iron beams have been installed on some posts

and preparations are being made for construction of approach road. Another seven concrete posts can be seen on the side of Inya Lake. Iron beams have been installed on some posts. The whole construction tasks have completed by 75 per cent. And, the plan is under way to complete the work in April.

Hledan junction is a focal point among two sections of Pyay Road, Insein Road, Hledan Road and University Avenue.

About 30,000 vehicles small and large are passing the junction from 7 am to 8 pm daily. A traffic policeman said, "We control the junction with traffic lights from 7 am

to 9 pm." Depending on traffic jam, traffic control is shared three minutes for Pyay Road, two minutes for Insein Road and over one minute for University

Avenue and Hledan Road.

In an interview, a bus driver of Parami bus line at Nanattaw traffic light said that they wait for green light at the point once

about five minutes and some-times, they face two or three red lights due to traffic lights.

In near future, people passing Hledan Junction can enjoy smooth and safe transport thanks to the over-pass.

Myanma Alin



Alberta sets up environmental monitor for oil sands

Environment

CALGARY, 19 Oct — The Alberta government said on Wednesday it is creating a scientific agency to monitor the environmental impacts of oil sands production as the industry seeks to expand its markets into regions that are increasingly critical of the process.

The body, to be funded by a combination of public and industry money, will eventually provide oversight for all of the Western Canadian province, but the initial focus will be on the tar sands-rich Lower Athabasca region.

The government described the new unit as providing “credible” and “arms-length” (or independent) research, though officials said on Wednesday it will answer to Environment Minister Diana McQueen and the scientific information it produces will be sent to her before it is released to the public. “The independent part comes about when we are taking a look at the science information, and saying: based on some of this evidence, what decision should be made in complex tasks. And that’s where we

would certainly give the advice to the minister,” said Howard Tennant, a former University of Lethbridge president who will lead the agency’s management board.

The move by the Conservative government of Premier Alison Redford is the latest in a series of responses to scientific studies and a federal report that have concluded the northern Alberta region, which encompasses the oil sands, needs to be more closely monitored for contamination as development booms.

Reuters

New York City to speed up \$1 billion in capital projects

US

New York, 19 Oct — New York City will speed up spending on more than \$1 billion of infrastructure projects to take advantage of record-low interest rates, Mayor Michael Bloomberg told a news conference on Wednesday. The road, bridge, school building and other projects are part of the city’s long-term capital plan after fiscal 2014, and some of

them have already begun. But now spending on them will be accelerated to within the next two years.

The projects could create about 8,000 jobs, mostly in construction, and save more than \$200 million in debt service because of historically low interest rates, New York City Comptroller John Liu said at the press conference. Liu first proposed a detailed

acceleration plan in May, though it originally called for the city to speed up \$2 billion in infrastructure spending, rather than the \$1 billion announced on Wednesday.

“These are not high profile, big ticket items. In fact, the bulk of them are completely unglamorous,” Bloomberg told reporters. About \$290 million will be spent to fix school buildings.— Reuters



Image provided by Peru’s Presidency shows Peruvian First Lady Nadine Heredia, and UN Women Executive Secretary and former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet visit the Centre for Studies and Community Development, in Lima, capital of Peru, on 17 Oct, 2012. — XINHUA

Florida man arrested for smuggling dinosaur bones from Mongolia

NEW YORK, 19 Oct — A Florida man described as “a one-man black market in prehistoric fossils” was arrested on Wednesday on charges of smuggling dinosaur skeletons from Mongolia, authorities said.

The arrest of Eric Prokopi, 38, of Gainesville, Florida, comes amid an international custody battle over a Tyrannosaurus bataar skeleton seized by the US government shortly after it was auctioned in Manhattan in May for \$1.05 million.

“Our recent seizure of the Tyrannosaurus bataar skeleton from Eric Prokopi was merely the tip of the iceberg,” Preet Bharara, the US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, said in a statement.

Our investigation uncovered a one-man black market in prehistoric fossils,” he said.

The dinosaur seizure and subsequent charges against Prokopi were sparked by Mongolia’s claim

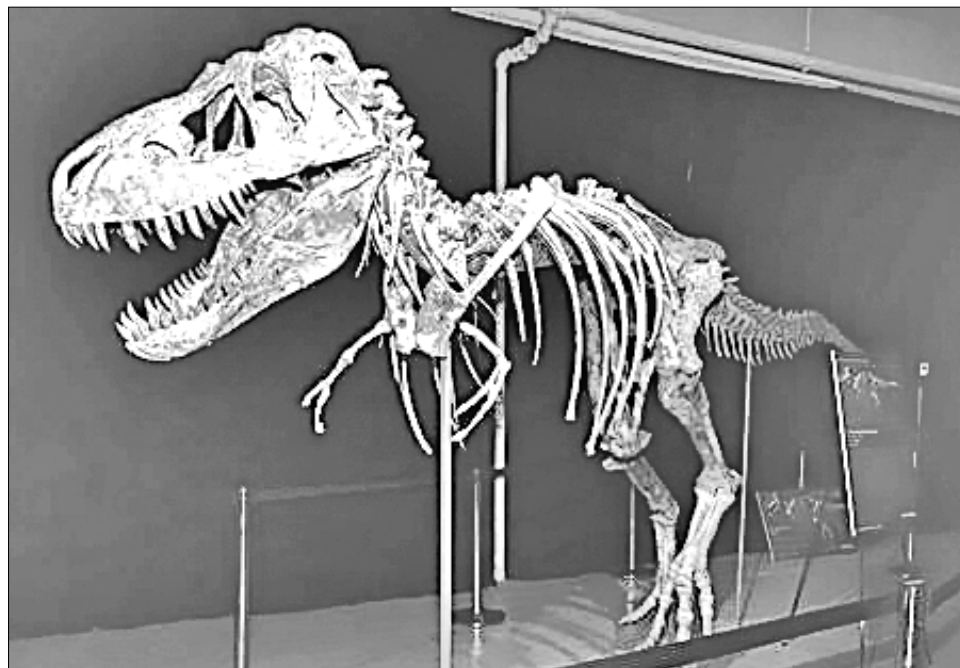
that the 70-million-year-old skeleton was stolen from the Gobi Desert and should be returned. Mongolian law prohibits the removal of dinosaur remains for private gain.

Prokopi, a commercial paleontologist who sells coral, fossils and other natural treasures through his home-based business at www.everything-earth.com, is accused of smuggling dinosaur bones out of Mongolia and China

from 2007 and selling them to auction houses and individuals for enormous profit. The charges against him are punishable by up to 35 years in prison.

According to the criminal complaint, the evidence against Prokopi includes a photograph taken by a Mongolian citizen that shows Prokopi “physically taking bones out of the ground” at an excavation site in Mongolia.

Reuters



The skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Bataar dinosaur is pictured in this undated handout photo received by Reuters on 17 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

Brazilian cellphone subscriptions exceed population

RIODE JANEIRO, 19 Oct — Brazil has 131.56 cellphone subscriptions for every 100 inhabitants, the National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel) said on Wednesday.

In total, there are 258.8 million active cellphone subscriptions for Brazil’s 193.9 million population, and Brasilia has the largest subscription/inhabitant ratio of 220 to 100, according to the agency. Out of the 258.8 million subscriptions, 57.28 million users had broadband Internet access, Anatel said.

In the first half of the year, 6.8 million smart phones were sold in the country, up 77 percent from the same period last year, according to consulting company IDC Brazil. Sales of tablet PCs, another mobile device, rose 275 percent in the second quarter of 2012, and were expected to reach 2.6 million units by the end of the year.

Xinhua

CIA officer, Army intelligence analyst killed in Afghan attack

Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct — A CIA officer and a US Army intelligence analyst were among those killed in a suicide bomb attack last weekend in Afghanistan, US officials said on Wednesday, speaking on condition of anonymity. The attack on Saturday in Kandahar province also killed several Afghans.

The NATO-led force has yet to determine whether it was the result of an insider attack, in which Afghan forces — including Taliban infiltrators — turn their weapons on allies. An

investigation is ongoing.

The US military has only identified one of the dead Americans as Specialist Brittany Gordon, a 24-year-old intelligence analyst. The identity of the second American has not been publicly released.

However, two US officials told Reuters the other slain American was a CIA officer. A third US official said only that he was “one of many civilians in Afghanistan who bravely serve alongside our Armed Forces.” The CIA declined comment.— Reuters

Aviation agreement to boost trade between New Zealand, India

WELLINGTON, 19 Oct — The New Zealand government on Thursday predicted a boost for the country’s aviation sector following the signing of an arrangement to strengthen aviation collaboration and trade with India.

The India-New Zealand Aviation Arrangement was signed in New Delhi during a visit by a high-level delegation led by New Zealand Economic Development Minister Steven Joyce.

“India is predicted to jump from the ninth largest civil aviation market in the

world to the third by 2020.

Domestic traffic in India is expected to grow from 46 million to 90 million passengers per year, with international traffic soaring from 34 million to 90 million in the same period,” Joyce said in a statement from his office.

“This rapidly growing market provides massive opportunities for New Zealand companies involved in aviation and the signing of the aviation agreement with India will strengthen the business relationship between our two countries.”

The arrangement would

encourage greater training and technical cooperation in aviation, including in the design and building of airports in India and flight training for Indian students in New Zealand.

Joyce was accompanied on his visit by nine New Zealand aviation companies.

He is also leading a delegation to lift New Zealand’s profile as a destination for international students and to support tertiary institutions and companies seeking to grow their business in the Indian market.— Xinhua

REGIONAL

Five sailors killed as boat capsizes off S Korea's Jeju Island

SEOUL, 19 Oct — Five sailors were killed on Thursday after a Coast Guard boat carrying them in seas off the southern island of Jeju capsized during a rescue operation for a Malaysian-flagged cargo vessel, the Coast Guard said.

The Coast Guard boat, which capsized in waters about 27.7 kilometres off the west coast of Jeju Island at 12:26 pm, was transferring 11 sailors from the ill-fated Malaysian freighter to a

rescue ship when high waves turned it over, according to *Yonhap News Agency*.

Three of the dead sailors were from the Philippines, while the two others were Chinese, the Coast Guard said. The Chinese Consulate-General in Jeju has confirmed that two Chinese crew members were killed.

The boat was on a rescue mission, with other accompanying vessels, for the Malaysian freighter heading to Singapore, which

had sought the Coast Guard's because it began taking on water, *Yonhap* said. Six South Korean Coast Guard officers were also aboard the boat. One of the officers lost and later regained consciousness and is receiving treatment at a Jeju hospital, the Coast Guard said. The freighter, which was carrying 13 Chinese and six Filipino sailors, sank at around 3:50 pm, said the Coast Guard.

Xinhua



Five sailors were killed on Thursday after a Coast Guard boat carrying them in seas off the southern island of Jeju capsized during a rescue operation for a Malaysian-flagged cargo vessel, the Coast Guard said.

XINHUA

Apple to open largest Asia retail store in Beijing

Market

BEIJING, 19 Oct — A new Apple store scheduled to open on 20 October in Beijing will be the company's largest retail store in Asia, a senior company official said on Thursday. John Browett, Apple's senior vice president of retail, said the new store in the Wangfujing shopping district will be the company's largest store in Asia, with more than 300 employees and a full range of accessories for Apple products.

Browett did not say whether the company will offer the iPhone 5 to the mainland market when the Wangfujing store opens. The Wangfujing store was open to the media for one hour on Thursday morning. The iPhone 5 was not on

display at the store, although headphones designed for the phone were on display.

Apple is stepping up its efforts to expand its presence in China. Browett said a store in south China's city of Shenzhen is "just about to open" and "more stores are coming across China." "We are looking forward to serving

every Chinese customer in every city," said Browett. "But that's going to take us some time."

Smartphones have overtaken desktop computers as the primary means of accessing the Internet for most Chinese, according to data from the China Internet Network Information Centre

(CNNIC). CNNIC data indicates that 388 million Chinese regularly surfed the Internet via their mobile phones as of the end of June. Apple has 390 retail stores around the world. The Wangfujing store is its third in Beijing and sixth on the Chinese mainland.

Xinhua

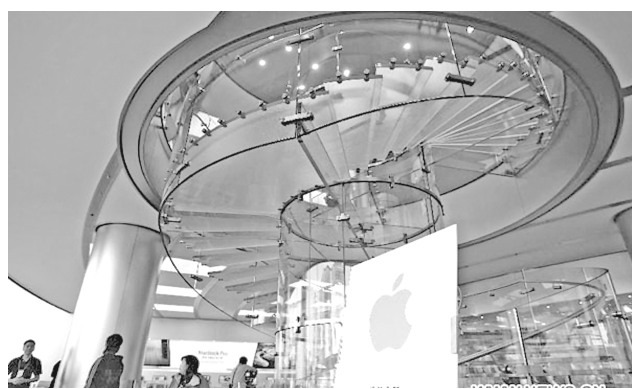


Photo taken on 18 Oct, 2012 shows an indoor scene of the new store of Apple Inc on Wangfujing Street in Beijing, China's capital. The new store, which will reportedly be the largest Apple store in Asia, is expected to open on 20 October.

XINHUA

Japan, Russia make arrangements in Tokyo ahead of summit in

TOKYO, 19 Oct — Japan and Russia made arrangements on Friday in a vice ministerial-level meeting for a planned summit in December, with Tokyo hoping to rejuvenate negotiations over a long-running territorial dispute.

The meeting in Tokyo was effectively the first working-level talks since Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda and Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed in June to reactivate the long-

dormant negotiations over the sovereignty of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido, which are claimed by Japan. In the meeting, Japan's Deputy Foreign Minister Akitaka Saiki and Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov, who is in charge of Asian affairs, were likely to begin work on an agreement that would be concluded at the December summit, according to Japanese officials.— *Kyodo News*

China to conduct exercise in East China Sea

China

ZHOUSHAN, ZHEJIANG, 19 Oct — The Chinese navy will conduct a joint exercise in the East China Sea with the country's fishery administration and marine surveillance agency on Friday, navy sources announced on Thursday.

A total of 11 vessels from the Donghai Fleet of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, the fishery administration and marine surveillance agency will take part in the exercise along with eight aircraft, according to a statement from the fleet. The exercise is aimed at improving coordination between the navy and administrative patrol vessels and sharpening their response to emergencies in missions

to safeguard territorial sovereignty and maritime interests, the statement said. When carrying out missions in disputed waters, patrol vessels of the fishery administration and marine surveillance agency have been stalked, harassed and even intentionally interfered with by foreign vessels, greatly challenging their duties, it added.

During the exercise, administrative vessels will practice patrol voyages with the backup of the navy vessels, and contingency plans will be tested. The PLA navy has conducted several joint exercises with the fishery administration and marine surveillance agency in the past.— *Xinhua*



The warship "Zhou Shan" sets sail on 18 Oct, 2012.

XINHUA

Environmental survey launched nationwide

BEIJING, 19 Oct — A nationwide survey examining China's environmental protection industry was launched on Tuesday, said the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The survey aims to compile scientific data for the nation's policymakers, and will cover the manufacture and operation of resource recycling and environmentally friendly products in 2011. Services related to the environmental protection industry, including the operation of environmental protection facilities and the construction of environment-related projects, will also be included in the census. Wu Xiaoping, vice-minister of environmental protection, said China's environmental protection industry is working hard to transform from a manufacturing industry to a service industry, in line with international trends. An environmental service industry, as described in the survey guide, includes pollution control services, environmental policy planning and consulting

services, environmental assessment and evaluation services, environmental education services and environmental financial and trade services. Fu Tao, director of Tsinghua University's Environmental Protection Industry Research Centre, told *China Daily* that the number of businesses providing environmental services is growing, indicating a maturing of the industry. "Environmental service businesses occupy about 50 percent to 60 percent of developed countries' environmental protection industries," he said. "The figure in China is somewhere between 15 percent to 20 percent now." All officially registered corporations in the Chinese mainland with independent accounting and an operating income above 2 million yuan (\$319,000) in relevant sub-industries, State-owned or not, will be asked to participate in the survey before the end of February. Only data from 1 Jan to 31 Dec, 2011, will be collected.

The final report will

be released to the public before August and will be updated on a regular basis from then, said Wu from the Ministry of Environmental Protection. "The industry has been growing fast. About 3 million people are providing 30 million kinds of environmental protection products and services in roughly 30,000 enterprises," he said. "And I strongly doubt these figures are still the same by now, which we can tell after the survey is finished."

According to data released in the Development Plan of Energy-saving and Environmental Protection Industry during the 12th Five Years (2011-15) in late June, the total output value of the whole industry is estimated to reach 4.5 trillion yuan by 2015, forming 2 percent of the GDP. "The environmental protection industry is very likely to become a pillar industry of the national economy in the next 20 years," said Fu from the research center at Tsinghua University.

Xinhua

Nobel laureate Yamanaka wants to use more Japan products in research

TOKYO, 19 Oct — Stem cell researcher Shinya Yamanaka, joint recipient of this year's Nobel prize in medicine, said on Friday he wants to use more domestic devices and other products in carrying out research in regenerative medicine, and asked the industry ministry to encourage the development of such items.

"A large part of the devices and reagents (I am using) are not domestically produced and are made in the United States or elsewhere. I feel frustrated about that," Yamanaka said after meeting with Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Yukio Edano in Tokyo.

Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (515)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (515) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2012 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: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV XIN XIANG RUI VOY NO (001)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIN XIANG RUI VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (7) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO. LTD**
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV PHU AN 36 VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHU AN 36 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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: M/S G. LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD.**
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV ER TURKU VOY NO (002)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MVER TURKU VOY NO (002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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: M/S HANJIN SHIPPING LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (98)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MVBANGPAKAEW VOY NO (98) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2012 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: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD.**
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**Afghan police kill eight
Taleban, arrest 23 within day****Afghanistan**

KABUL, 19 Oct — Afghan police in conjunction with the national army and NATO-led troops have killed eight Taleban militants and arrested 23 others during series of operations across the country over the past 24 hours, Interior Ministry said in a Press release on Wednesday.

"Afghan National Police, backed by the units of national army and the NATO-led Coalition forces launched seven joint cleanup operations in Balkh, Sar-e-

Pul, Nangarhar, Helmand, Ghazni, Paktiya and Parwan provinces over the past 24 hours which left eight rebels dead and injured another," the Press release added.

The police also arrested 23 Taleban fighters during the operations, it further said. There were no casualties on the security forces, according to the Press release. Taleban militants fighting the government and NATO-led force are yet to comment.

Xinhua

Middle East

will test the *Iron Dome* and *Arrow 2* systems. The Israelis will also tie the developing David's Sling system into the scenarios.

According to Nuriel, most of the three-week exercise will be simulation, but some training will entail live-fire. Austere Challenge 2012 is the largest US-Israeli military exercise to date, and it is the latest in a long line of such exercises.—Xinhua

US, Israel to test missile defence in joint drill

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct — US and Israel military will hold a joint exercise next week, with testing missile defence one of the main objectives, US and Israeli officials announced on Wednesday.

The drill, Exercise Austere Challenge 2012, will involve more than 3,500 US service members and be conducted throughout Israel and off-shore, US Air Force

Lt Gen Craig Franklin and Israel Defence Forces Brig Gen Nitzan Nuriel said during a teleconference with reporters. Franklin commands the 3rd Air Force and is the senior US commander for the exercise. Nuriel is the Israeli lead planner.

Franklin said more than 1,000 US military personnel are arriving in Israel for the exercise, and they will

be posted in a variety of locations across the country for the next several weeks. The exercise will test the cooperative missile defence of Israel.

US service members will man Patriot anti-missile systems, an Aegis ballistic missile defence ship and various other air defence systems. The Israelis will put more than 1,000 service members into the field and

**THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT INVITES
ASEAN NATIONALS TO APPLY FOR
THE POSITION OF****DIRECTOR, SOCIO-CULTURAL
COOPERATION**

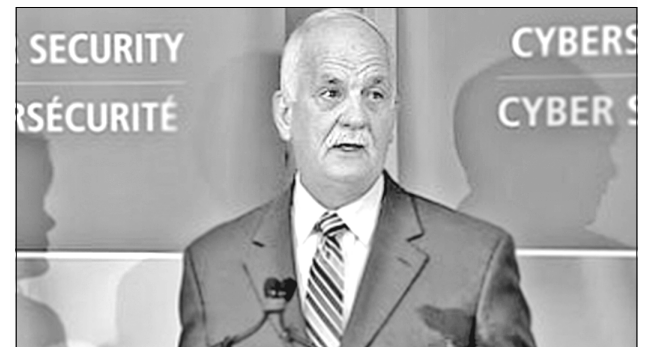
The ASEAN Secretariat Jakarta has a vacancy for Director, Socio-Cultural Cooperation. This position will report to the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (DSG ASCC). The Director, Socio-Cultural Cooperation will be responsible in providing high-level secretariat services, including lead and manage the overall operations of the Socio-Cultural Cooperation Directorate of the ASEAN Secretariat.

How to apply:

Visit our website at

www.asean.org/opportunities/vacancies for details on job description, qualification and application procedures.

Application papers should reach the ASEAN Secretariat by **26 October 2012**.

Canada ups cyber security spending as China worry rises

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews announces an increase in funding for cyber security at a community college in Ottawa on Wednesday.—REUTERS

OTTAWA, 19 Oct — Canada said on Wednesday it will beef up spending on defences against Internet hackers as it grapples with reports of Chinese hacking of Canadian companies and a US warning of the risks of Chinese cyber espionage. The Conservative government will spend an additional C\$155 million (\$158 million) over five years on strengthening its response centre for dealing with cyber threats in the private sector as well as boosting the security of the government's own communications, Public Safety Minister Vic Toews said. The announcement came less than a month after Toews' department acknowledged a pair of cyber attacks on a Canadian energy company and on a manufacturer of software

used by energy firms. The government declined to comment on reports that suggested a Chinese connection.

A US congressional report last week warned of the risks of doing business with Chinese telecom equipment makers Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp because of possible Chinese cyber espionage.

"Keeping our cyber networks and infrastructure secure and resilient is one of the most challenging issues facing our government, our citizens and our allies," Toews told a news conference at a technical college in Ottawa. "I can assure you that our government is fully engaged in meeting and overcoming this challenge."

Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

Jennifer Aniston is planning a three-day wedding

NEW DELHI, 19 Oct—The former Friends actress had initially planned a small, intimate ceremony for when she ties the knot with Justin Theroux but the couple's celebration ideas are growing increasingly more "extravagant".

A source told the UK edition of Grazia magazine: "What started out as quite low-key is now looking more extravagant. They are still keen on a beach wedding in Hawaii or Mexico towards the end of the year, but Jen wants it to be more like a massive party and, at the moment, it looks like it could stretch over three days. Half of Hollywood will be there too."

After Jennifer Aniston — who was previously wed to Brad Pitt — showed off her eight-carat emerald-cut diamond for the first time last week, there is now speculation she will break from her usual simple, classic style choices when choosing her wedding dress.

A source said: "The dress is being kept top secret. But now Jen's debuted this massive ring, it's kind of set a precedent so who knows, we could see Jen break from her conservative, simple style and go for a show-stopper of a dress too." —PTI



Jennifer Aniston

I don't have a physique like James Bond: Daniel Craig

LONDON, 19 Oct—Daniel Craig's exit from the sea in Casino Royale wearing just a tight-fitting swimming trunks remains one of the most memorable scenes from his run as James Bond. But the actor says it's not a physique he keeps up in his day-to-day life. The 44-year-old however says it is no big deal to get in Bond shape for the role, reported Access Hollywood.

"It's just a ball, quite frankly. I mean, I've just got to do it. I spoke to a doctor while I was doing the film who said, 'You're playing a football match kind of every day, and not getting any rest."

"Normally, football players would come Saturday or Sunday and take three days off at least. So I was sort of constantly sort of bashed up. So keeping in shape - it was just so I moved — at all," he said.

In Skyfall Craig has one scene where he's wearing just a towel, and he says producers let him know ahead of time, so he could prepare.



Robert De Niro

Robert De Niro has been left homeless after a house fire

NEW DELHI, 19 Oct—The 69-year-old actor and his wife Grace Hightower had to move out of the home in Central West Park in New York City in June after a blaze caused by a lint build-up in a clothes dryer spread across the building.

Despite originally planning to renovate they are now moving out permanently after it was deemed uninhabitable.

They had lined up a \$100,000-a-month apartment to rent on the 64th floor of the Park Imperial, but the deal turned sour with Robert claiming it was "misrepresented" to him.

A source told New York Post's Page Six: "There was an issue with misrepresentation of the apartment and they managed to get out of the lease."

The apartment went back on the market two days ago."

Grace Hightower has also been heard telling friends she and her husband are looking for a five-bedroom rental which has "tons of closet space".

An eyewitness at the time of the fire — which took an hour to put out — was shocked at how tall the flames were.

The onlooker, who was driving at the time, said: "Right above my head these 12 ft tall flames exploded out of the fifth floor window."

PTI

Demi Moore "jealous and frustrated" by Ashton, Mila romance



LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct—Sources close to her circle say some friends are worried the Ms Moore hasn't fully recovered. Actress Demi Moore's friends aren't convinced she is over her separation with Ashton Kutcher and, if sources are to be believed, she is jealous of his romance with Mila Kunis.

Demi Moore, who will mark her 50th birthday on 11 November, has had an eventful year - her six-year marriage to Ashton Kutcher ended last November in the wake of the actor's public cheating scandal, she was hospitalised last January, and has since endured intense scrutiny of her well-being. Sources close to her circle say some friends are worried the Ms Moore hasn't fully recovered. Her reduced frame is raising concerns, while a source reveals "her friends aren't convinced she's all better", reports people.com.

Another source close to Ms Moore says she is "jealous and frustrated" by the Ashton Kutcher-Mila Kunis romance, while an insider says the actress is taking Ashton Kutcher's cheating the hardest.

"What was humiliating was having her husband cheat on her in such a public way," the insider said. "But once that happened, she has not looked back." —Reuters



Daniel Craig

"I kind of have to work towards that. Luckily, we kind of plan those out beforehand, so I can kind of work to make sure I'm kind of in as good of shape as I can be for those scenes," he added. Skyfall hits theaters on 26 October. —PTI

Angelina Jolie wants to be her children's friend

LONDON, 19 Oct—Actress Angelina Jolie wants to be her kids' friend when they grow up.

The 37-year-old, who raises six kids with fiancé Brad Pitt, is looking forward to her brood reaching rebellious stages in their lives, though she knows it will be a tough time for the whole family, reported Showbizspy.

"I am looking forward to them being teenagers."

I am looking forward to them trying to pretend they are not doing anything wrong. I'll be their friend and I'll be honest with them and I hope whatever they go through they can talk to

me. That's the best I can do.

"I'll try to be as close to them as I am now. So when they get to the point they don't want to talk to me, they know deep down I love them and we have that relationship."

It's tough for everyone those years," she said. Jolie also said she is much less strict with her sons than daughters. "Brad is more lenient on the girls and I am more lenient on the boys."

We can't quite figure out why that is," she added.

PTI



Actress Angelina Jolie

Murray and Roddick to play on white court in Miami

Tennis

MIAMI, 19 Oct—US Open champion and Olympic gold medalist Andy Murray and recently retired American Andy Roddick will play on a white court in an end-of-year exhibition event in Miami next month.



Andy Murray of Britain

The pair will feature in the first edition of the Miami Cup, along with 2003 French Open winner Juan Carlos Ferrero, fellow Spaniard Nicolas Almagro, Colombian Alejandro Falla and top-ranked American,



Andy Roddick of America

John Isner.

Roddick announced his retirement at the US Open in August and is playing a series of farewell events.

The tournament will be held at Crandon Park, home to the annual Masters Series, Sony Ericsson Open and the stadium court will be transformed from its usual purple and green color system to white with red

lines, painted within blue surrounds.

Tennis is increasingly experimenting with new color schemes and the Madrid Masters this year was played on blue clay — a move that was unpopular with some of the players.

The tournament will be held from 30 Nov through 2 December.

Reuters

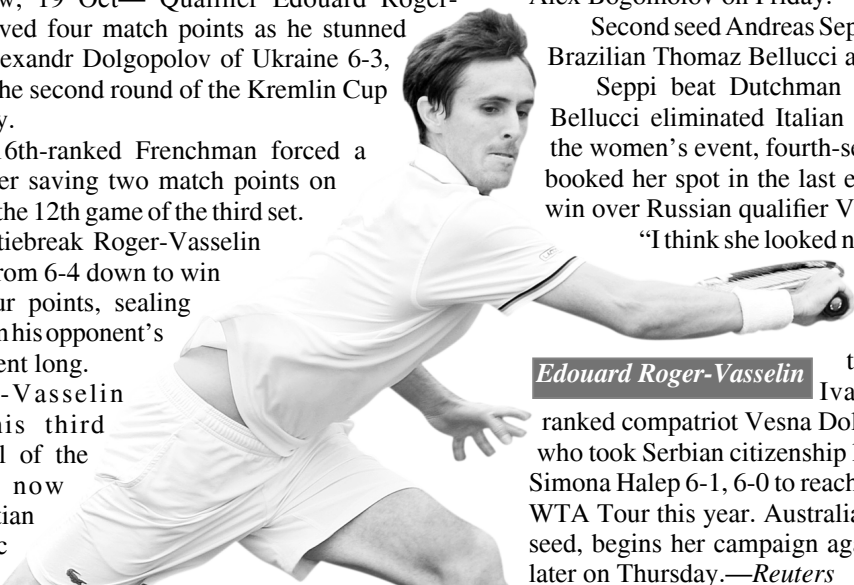
Top seed Dolgoplov stunned by French qualifier in Moscow

MOSCOW, 19 Oct—Qualifier Edouard Roger-Vasselin saved four match points as he stunned top seed Alexandr Dolgoplov of Ukraine 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 in the second round of the Kremlin Cup on Thursday.

The 116th-ranked Frenchman forced a tiebreak after saving two match points on his serve in the 12th game of the third set.

In the tiebreak Roger-Vasselin recovered from 6-4 down to win the last four points, sealing victory when his opponent's forehand went long.

Roger-Vasselin reached his third quarter-final of the year and now plays Croatian Ivo Karlovic or Russian



Alex Bogomolov on Friday.

Second seed Andreas Seppi of Italy and fourth-seeded Brazilian Thomaz Bellucci also went through.

Seppi beat Dutchman Igor Sijsling 7-5, 6-2 and Bellucci eliminated Italian Flavio Cipolla 6-4, 6-1. In the women's event, fourth-seeded Serbian Ana Ivanovic booked her spot in the last eight with a routine 6-1, 6-4 win over Russian qualifier Valeria Solovieva.

"I think she looked nervous, especially in the first set, because it was probably her first big match," former world number one Ivanovic told reporters.

Ivanovic next meets 158th-ranked compatriot Vesna Dolonc. Moscow-born Dolonc, who took Serbian citizenship last year, crushed Romanian Simona Halep 6-1, 6-0 to reach her first quarter-final on the WTA Tour this year. Australian Samantha Stosur, the top seed, begins her campaign against France's Alize Cornet later on Thursday.—Reuters

Messi the best in the world: Brazil's Lula

Soccer



Barcelona FC striker Lionel Messi

BUENOS AIRES, 19 Oct—Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said on Thursday that Argentinean star and Barcelona FC striker Lionel Messi is "the best one in the world." In an interview

published on Thursday by Buenos Aires' local daily "La Nacion", Lula said he can't imagine a "worst nightmare" than to see Argentina become champion in Brazil 2014.

"Before we fought to know who was the best, if Maradona or Pele. And of course Pele was better. But today, there are no doubts: Messi is the best one in the world," said Lula, who didn't mention his fellow citizen Neymar,

from Sao Paulo's Santos FC, neither the Portuguese player Cristiano Ronaldo from Spain's Real Madrid CF.

Lula, a well-known fan of Sao Paulo's Corinthians, joked twice during the interview about the possibility that the Argentineans would win the 2014 World Cup, which would be the third one after Argentina 1978 and Mexico 1986.

"The only thing we don't want, and that we won't allow, is that Argentina tries to win the 2014 World Cup" and "we won't let them raise the World Cup in Rio," were Lula's phrases. Argentina is in the first position in the South American qualification series for Brazil 2014, with 20 points, followed by Ecuador (17), Colombia (16), Venezuela, Chile and Uruguay (12), Peru and Bolivia (8), and Paraguay (7).—Reuters

Sauber F1 hopeful Gutierrez to test in Abu Dhabi

Formula One

LONDON, 19 Oct—Sauber will run Mexican Esteban Gutierrez in a young driver test in Abu Dhabi next month, the Swiss team said on Thursday.

The 21-year-old is already the team's test and reserve driver and is tipped as a likely candidate to fill the shoes of compatriot Sergio Perez, who is joining McLaren as Lewis Hamilton's replacement next season.

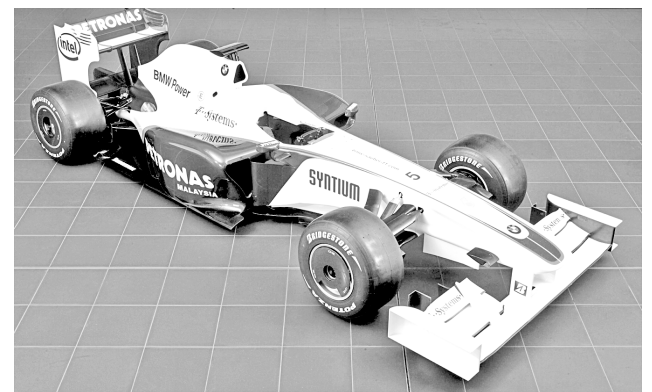
Sauber have a number of important Mexican sponsors and Monterrey-born Gutierrez is also backed by the country's telephone giant Telmex within the same Escuderia Telmex line-up as

Perez. The test will be Gutierrez's fourth for Sauber since 2009 and he will be joined in Abu Dhabi by 21-year-old Dutchman Robin Frijns. The test runs from 6 to 8 November.

Sauber have taken four podium finishes this season and the team have the most desirable remaining vacancy, and possibly two seats, in the sport now that teams above them have settled their line-ups.

The team's other current race driver is Japan's Kamui Kobayashi, whose future remains uncertain despite him finishing third at his home Grand Prix this month.

Reuters



BMW Sauber F1

Cole fined by FA for Twitter insult

LONDON, 19 Oct—Chelsea defender Ashley Cole has been fined 90,000 pounds (\$145,500) by the Football Association for a Twitter insult he aimed at the governing body last week, the FA said in a statement on Thursday.

The England international called the FA a "bunch of t***s" 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.

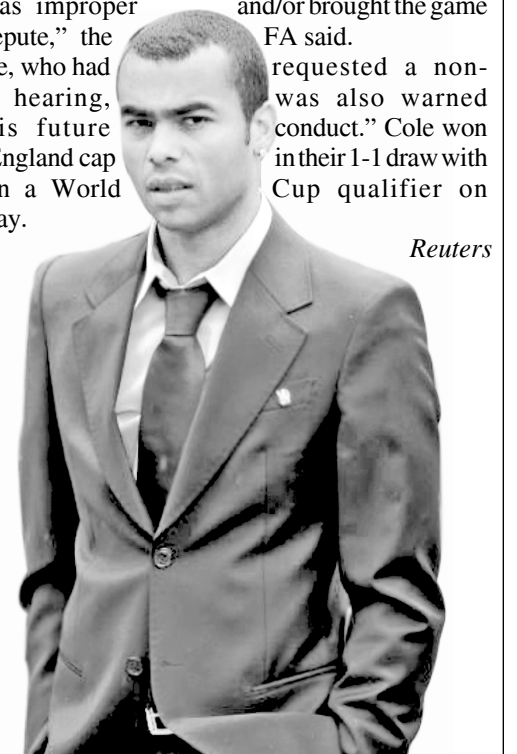
Cole removed the tweet within hours of posting it and then apologised unreservedly, including a personal apology to FA chairman David Bernstein.

"Chelsea's Ashley Cole has been fined £90,000 after he admitted an FA charge in relation to a Twitter comment which was improper and/or brought the game into disrepute," the FA said.

"Cole, who had requested a non-personal hearing, as to his future conduct." Cole won his 99th England cap in their 1-1 draw with Poland in a World Cup qualifier on Wednesday.

Reuters

Chelsea defender Ashley Cole



Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(20-10-12 09:30 am ~ 21-10-12 09:30 am)

MST

- * News
- * Famous Pagodas of Sagaing
- * ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit 2012 Yangon & Business Matching
- * News
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Chit Pan Wai"
- * News
- * Sittway, Evergreen Seaside Town
- * News
- * 92nd Myanmar Film Festival & 49th respect paying ceremony to aged actors

- * News
- * Kid's Talent
- * News
- * Mt. Popa: An Oasis in the Central Region
- * Tri Star Art Show
- * News
- * Get Well-tailored Clothes Here
- * News
- * Malaysia Expo & Healthcare Seminar
- * Myanmar Movie "The Director"

MYANMAR TV

(20-10-2012, Saturday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 7:45 am
- 4. Health Programme
- 7:55 am
- 5. Documentary
- 8:25 am
- 6. 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Song)
- 11:00 am
- 7. Martial Song
- 11:10 am
- 8. Musical Programme
- 11:25 am
- 9. Game For Children
- 11:50 am
- 10. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 1:45 pm
- 11. Song of National Races
- 1:50 pm
- 12. Teleplay
- 2:50 pm
- 13. International News
- 4:05 pm
- 14. Cultural Dances
- 5:00 pm
- 15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Fourth Year (Law)
- 5:15 pm
- 16. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:20 pm
- 17. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 6:25 pm
- 18. Celebrity and Dinner
- 8:00 pm
- 19. News
- 20. 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Opera)

Japan's shiatsu anma therapy getting popular in Nepal



Ishwor Raj Balami, proprietor of You, I Health Centre, massages a client using the traditional Japanese "shiatsu anma" healing technique at the Japanese massage centre in Kathmandu on 10 Sept, 2012. KYODO NEWS

KATHMANDU 19 Oct — The traditional Japanese healing technique of shiatsu anma is gradually but steadily getting popular in Nepal to the extent that Kathmandu has dozens of copycat "Japanese massage" centers that claim to provide the therapy without actually doing so.

The success of genuine Japanese massage centres like "You, I Health Centre," located in the upscale

Durbarmarg area in central Kathmandu, has prompted many struggling massage centres to make such claims to attract more customers.

"In reality, there are just three centers in Kathmandu that provide real acupressure, moxibustion and acupuncture service true to the Japanese tradition," said Ishwor Raj Balami, proprietor of You, I Health Centre.

Kyodo News

Europe advances towards single banking supervisor

BRUSSELS, 19 Oct — European Union leaders took a big stride towards establishing a single banking supervisor for the euro zone, agreeing it would enter into force next year, opening the way for the bloc's rescue fund to inject capital directly into ailing banks. European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said the 27 leaders agreed at a Brussels summit to adopt a legal framework by the end of this year giving the European Central Bank overall responsibility for banking supervision. "Once this is agreed, the single supervisory mechanism could probably be effectively operational in the course of 2013," he told a news conference after nearly 10 hours of talks.

French and EU officials said all 6,000 banks in the single currency area would gradually come under ECB supervision by 2014, starting with banks receiving state aid, then large cross-border institutions. Most day-to-day oversight would be delegated to national bodies. Creating an effective banking union, for which this deal was a first step, is regarded by



European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (L) and European Council President Herman Van Rompuy hold a news conference at the end of the first session of a two-day European Union (EU) leaders summit in Brussels on 19 Oct, 2012.— REUTERS

the International Monetary Fund and market economists as a key component in overcoming the euro zone's three-year-old debt crisis. French President Francois Hollande said the leaders did not discuss possible financial assistance for Spain, but he laid out a series of steps that could turn a corner in the crisis. "Tonight, I have the confirmation that the worst is behind us," he told a 3 am news conference. "We are on track to solve the problems that for too long have been paralysing the euro zone and made it vulnerable. "If the December European summit

confirms the decisions we took, if Greece finds a lasting solution, if Spain recovers funding mechanisms, then we will be done with a situation which weighed on markets and on the confidence in the euro zone." German Chancellor Angela Merkel said it would take more than a couple of months before the supervisor was fully effective and direct bank recapitalisation could be considered. However, the agreement appeared to be a defeat for German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble's efforts to delay and limit the scope

of European banking supervision. Germany has been reluctant to see its politically sensitive savings and cooperative banks come under outside supervision.

Reuters

Canada's top court rules for Glaxo in tax case

OTTAWA, 19 Oct — The Supreme Court of Canada ruled on Thursday in favour of GlaxoSmithKline Plc in a tax case centered on whether the drug conglomerate charged its Canadian unit excessive prices for ingredients so that it could avoid Canadian taxes.

Dealing with the taxes of GlaxoSmithKline's Canadian subsidiary in 1990-93, the case marked the first time that Canada's top court has dealt with the issue of transfer pricing, an area of tax law under growing scrutiny worldwide.

Transfer pricing refers to how multinational corporations value goods and services moving across international borders from one corporate

unit to another. The prices are frequently managed to reduce corporations' global tax costs. The court ruled unanimously that it was appropriate for Glaxo's Canadian unit to pay more for drug ingredients than a generic drug maker might pay because of benefits that flow to the unit from its license agreement with GlaxoSmithKline.

GlaxoSmithKline lost on one point, and as a result the case will be sent back to tax court to decide what a reasonable price would have been for the Canadian unit to have paid. This price will be seen as higher than what generic drugmakers would pay.

The ruling "may make it

easier for foreign companies to dodge Canadian tax liabilities," said Art Cockfield, a tax law expert and professor at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Multinationals are constantly moving goods, services and assets across borders, with internal payments flowing among subsidiaries. By managing the pricing of transfers, companies can shift profits to low-tax countries from high-tax ones. Transfer pricing management is legal, but sometimes national authorities rule against corporations that push too hard.

Global standards call for setting transfer prices at levels resembling those on the open market. Drug and technology firms with intellectual property easily shifted from one country to another — are often involved in transfer pricing disputes.

The Glaxo case will "substantially influence transfer pricing jurisprudence in Canada — There are a bunch of transfer pricing cases now in the pipeline in Canada," said Al Meghji, a partner with law firm Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, who represented Glaxo.

Reuters



Signage is pictured on the company headquarters of GlaxoSmithKline in west London on 21 July, 2008.

REUTERS

Robotic suit made to aid workers in heavy gear at nuclear accident

TOKYO, 19 Oct — A robotic suit developed to help workers wearing heavy protective gear against radiation exposure at nuclear accident sites was unveiled in Tokyo on Thursday.

The HAL suit contains

radiation-shielding metallic materials and weighs around 70 kilograms, but wearers can move freely for a variety of tasks thanks to motors located at joint sections that assist movements, according to maker Cyberdyne Inc.,

based in Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture.

The device was developed by a team including Yoshiyuki Sankai, professor at the University of Tsukuba.

Kyodo News

Dragonair operates Hong Kong-Yangon-Hong Kong flight

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—According to Skytrax's annual survey of the world's airlines in 2010 and 2011, Hong Kong-based Dragonair is the internationally-recognized best regional operator. The airline will operate direct flight to Yangon as of 9 January, 2013.

The airline will operate Hong Kong-Yangon and Yangon-Hong Kong flights. The departure and arrival time for Hong Kong-Yangon is 9.20 pm and 11.35 pm (Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday) and for Yangon-Hong Kong trips, 1 am and 6 pm (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday).

Its plane can seat 36 passengers. The airline



operates flights to 39 regional destinations. The newly-launched flight is hoped to contribute to the

development of recreation and economic relations between Myanmar and Hong Kong. The number of

direct flights to Myanmar has reached 22, including the Dragonair air Airline.

MNA

Aungbalay consecutive sister numbers prizes introduced K 50,000

YANGON, 19 Oct— On 1 November, 2012, the awarding of consecutive sister numbers prizes will be introduced and those prize winners will be awarded K 50,000 for each prize for all series, announced by Aungbalay State Lottery Directorate of the Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue.

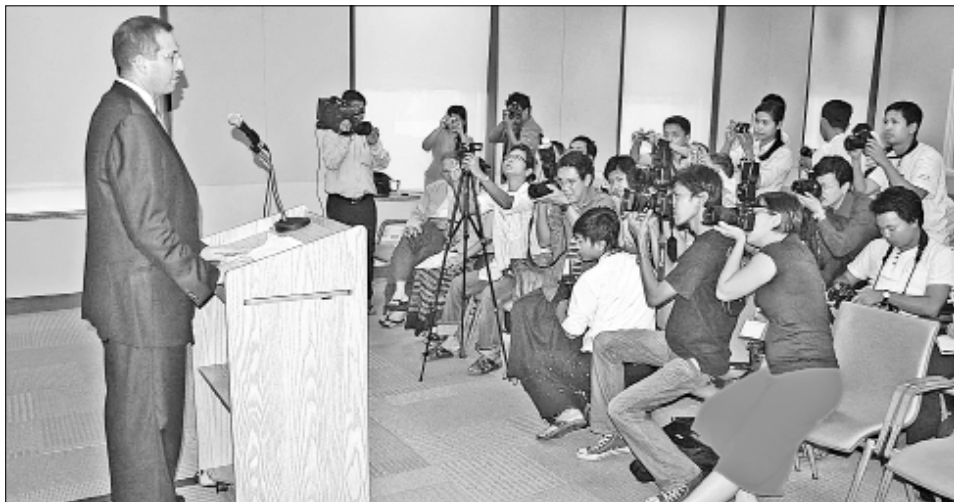
When launching the consecutive sister numbers prizes, the number 100000 and 100001 with alphabets that did not include in the

printing process will be substituted with new prizes.

The distribution number of prizes are K 150 million (one prize), K 100 million (one prize), K 50 million (one prize), K 30 million (four prizes), K 20 million (five prizes) and K 10 million (14 unit) plus extra unit and special prizes totaling 25125.

Commencing from 286th series, the number of the prizes will be further increased to 6131 and the highest prize will be K 150 million and the lowest prize K 50,000, said Aungbalay Directorate.—MNA

US ambassador clarifies humanitarian assistance of US government in Rakhine State



YANGON, 19 Oct— US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Derek Mitchell held a press conference on provision of US\$ 2.73 million in humanitarian assistance for displaced persons in Rakhine State by United States of America at US Embassy on University Avenue here at 3 pm today.

US ambassador said that recent visits of President

U Thein Sein and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi are historic visits, Myanmar-US Human Rights Dialogue held in Nay Pyi Taw on 16 and 17 October further strengthens the amity and mutual understanding between the two countries, US Government assists US\$ 2.73 million in line with international humanitarian basic principles.

US Government provided altogether additional US\$ 2.73 million including US\$ 2 million for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and US\$ 730,000 for United Nations Children's Fund to the persons who are discharging United Nations responsibilities in Rakhine State.—MNA

US to invite Myanmar to observe military exercise "Cobra Gold"

BANGKOK, 19 Oct—The United States will invite Myanmar to the world's largest multinational military field exercise, a powerful symbolic gesture and a milestone in its rapprochement with the West.

Myanmar has been invited to observe "Cobra Gold", which brings together thousands of American and Thai military personnel and participants from other Asian countries for joint annual maneuvers, officials from countries participating in the

exercises told Reuters.

It's a significant and symbolic gesture that shows the rapprochement is gathering momentum", said Christopher Roberts, a security expert at Australia National University.

It is also seen as a first step towards US-Myanmar military-to-military ties, cut off after 1988. The invitation came after intense lobbying by Thailand, co-host of the exercises, the sources said.

The invitation follows a visit this week by a delegation led by Michael Posner, the

US State Department's top human rights official, to Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of Myanmar. The US team also included Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Vikram Singh and other US military officials.

Last year, about 10,000 US military personnel took part, along with about 3,400 Thais. Five other countries participated—Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea and nine countries sent observers, including China.

MNA/Reuters

Water purifier installed in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 19 Oct—A water purifier has been built at Basic Education High School No. 1 in Meiktila for the student consumption.

"Water quality has been tested at Region Health Department. The purifier is supplying purified drinking

water to over 4000 students sufficiently. The purifier supplies water to the taps directly with a view to enabling the students to drink clean and hygienic water.

The installation of purifier cost K 10 million.

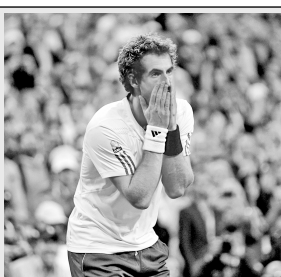
Assistant Engineer U Soe Aung of Development Affairs Committee provided technology and installation assistance for the purifier with the contribution of the local people," explained Headmistress Daw Marlar.

Kyemon



Japan's shiatsu anma therapy getting popular in Nepal

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Murray and Roddick to play on white court in Miami

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