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Myanmar has always had great faith in important role of UN in overcoming challenging international issues while promoting enduring peace and security, promoting economic and social advancement, better standard of living of the peoples worldwide

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein sent a message to mark the United Nations Day today. The full text of the message is as follows:-

On the occasion of the 67th Anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, we join hands with other Member countries of the World Organization in commemorating this significant and special day for the global community.

The United Nations came into existence sixty-seven years ago, with noble aims to bring world peace and stability, to end hostilities

among members of the global community, which has been devastated twice by the scourge of World Wars and to promote better socio-economic livelihood of the people in larger freedom.

Over the decades, the United Nations has successfully accomplished its principal mission of maintaining international peace and security. In addition, the United Nations

has made advances in the fields of socio-economic development, promotion of human rights, encouraging equal rights of individuals regardless of their genders as well as rights of nations large and small, maintenance of international law and protection and conservation of the environment with the commitments of the Member States of the United Nations to work collectively and colla-

boratively.

Still, the world today faces a series of complex crises and new emerging issues—food insufficiency, economic uncertainties, imbalances in global financial and trade environment, frequent occurrence of natural disasters more than ever before, climate change—posing daunting challenges to peace and security. As a consequence, these remain a

major impediment for many developing countries.

To the relief of the Member States of the International Organization, especially for many developing countries, the United Nations has remained as the best forum to address global challenges while guaranteeing international peace and security. The challenges members of the global community are facing

today can be best coped with a multi-faceted and integrated approach since no country can tackle the multitude and magnitude of global problems and challenges single-handedly.

Myanmar has always had great faith in the important role of the United Nations in overcoming the challenging international issues while promoting

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Financial Commission meets

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Financial Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar met at the meeting hall of the President Office this noon, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Financial Commission President U Thein Sein.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Union ministers, the Attorney-General of the Union, the Auditor-General of the Union, chief ministers of regions and states and personnel.

Chairman of Financial

Commission President U Thein Sein gave detailed instructions on budgetary matters of the Union to Union level agencies and region/state level institutions.

Next, vice-chairmen of Financial Commission Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Vice-President U Nyan Tun discussed assessment of budget allocation.

Commission Secretary,

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein explained budgetary matters and region/state chief ministers budget expenditures in details with statistics.

The President then assessed the reports and the meeting came to an end with his concluding remarks in the evening.

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Chairman of Financial Commission President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein addresses Financial Commission Meeting No (2/2012).

MNA



Workshop on promoting active and healthy ageing held

YANGON, 24 Oct—A workshop on promoting active and healthy ageing through healthy care professionals took place at University of Public Health on Bogyoke Aung San road, here, this morning.

At the ceremony, Rector Prof Dr Nay Soe Maung and WHO representative Dr Salma Burton gave talks

on promoting socio-statue care and health care of the elderly.

The workshop was jointly organized by Medical Science Department of Ministry of Health, University of Public Health and World Health Organization (WHO).

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Photo shows those present at Financial Commission Meeting No (2/2012).

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Myanmar has always ...

(from page 1) better standard of living enduring peace and security, promoting the economic and social advancement, of the peoples worldwide. Our hope for a better, more prosperous and peaceful

world has always remained with the World Organization. On this auspicious occasion of the 67th Anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, we hereby reaffirm our support and commitment to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations which have proved timeless.

MNA

US contributes publications to parliamentary library



The ceremony to donate publications to parliamentary library in progress at Press Room of Zabuthiri Hall in Hluttaw Complex.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—The United States of America contributed publications to parliamentary library in a ceremony at Press Room of Zabuthiri Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this evening.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw

and Amyotha Hluttaw committees, secretaries, Hluttaw representatives, US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell, Coordinator of the Bureau of International Information Programs of US Department of State Ms Dawn Mc Call, Asia Foundation Chairman Mr David Arnold and personnel.

US Ambassador Mr Derek Mitchell explained purpose of the contribution and Ms Dawn Mc Call and Asia Foundation Chairman Mr David Arnold discussed the facts about contributed publications.

Next, Mr Derek Mitchell, Ms Dawn Mc Call and Mr David Arnold handed over the publications to Chairman of Parliamentary

Library (including e-library) Establishment Group Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Dr Soe Yin who spoke words of thanks for contribution.

The publications cover over 700 subjects ranging from legal and democratic affairs, public administration, good governance, public finance to government functions and business activities.—MNA

Serve the interest of people through cooperation between Union Government and Region/State Governments

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—With the aim of effectively undertaking regional development tasks and making coordination with Region/State Governments and Union Government, a team comprising Union Minister U Hla Tun and officials from the Union

Ministries went to Mon State yesterday.

A coordination meeting between members of State government, National Races Affairs Ministers and local people took place at State Government Office, attended by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint, Speaker of

State Hluttaw U Kyin Pe, State ministers and officials.

Union Minister U Hla Tun said that officials concerned are to serve the interest of people through cooperation between Union Government and Region/State Governments. The State is making the

efforts for reaching eternal peace essential for the country's development while attempting for socio-economic development. Efforts are to be made to become people-centered governments. Officials concerned are to serve the interest of people and solve difficulties of people in cooperation with respective organizations.

MNA

16th Mekong Sub-Region Transportation Forum launches

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—The 16th Mekong Sub-Region Transportation Forum was held at Thingaha Hotel, here, this morning.

It was attended by Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin and U Chan Maung, departmental heads, Director-General of Southeast Asia Transport Division of Asia Development Bank Mr. James P. Lynch, representatives from GMS member countries, its sister organizations and

representatives from Asia Development Bank and officials concerned from Myanmar International Freight Forwarders' Association.

During the meeting, Deputy Minister Thura U Thaug Lwin extended greeting. Representatives from GMS member countries concentrated on matters related to progress of the rail transportation association after reviewing works that had been done in developing transportation sector.

The meeting will go on

till 25 October.—MNA

ICT Hardware Training Course opened in Monywa

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—The opening ceremony of ICT Hardware Training Course No-2, organized by Zeyapadetha Foundation was held at Zeyathiri hall of University of Computer Studies (Monywa) on 22 October morning.

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye gave an opening speech.

The Region Chief Minister inspected

construction of new building at No 5 Basic Education High School in Monywa.

At Monywa people's hospital, he viewed round free medical treatment for cleft lip and palate jointly provided by specialists from Germany and Monywa people's hospital, under the auspices of Sitagu Sayadaw and region government.—MNA

'Now is the time to raise our collective ambitions,' says Secretary-General, in UN Day message, urging member states to reaffirm commitment to charter

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message to mark United Nations Day, commemorated on 24 October.

We are living through a period of profound turmoil, transition and transformation. Insecurity, inequality and intolerance are spreading. Global and national institutions are being put to the test. With so much at stake, the United Nations must keep pace across the spectrum of its activities—peace, development, human rights, the rule of law, the empowerment of the world's women and youth.

There has been important progress on many fronts. Extreme poverty has been cut in half since the year 2000. Democratic transitions are under way in many countries.

There are encouraging signs of economic growth across the developing world.

Now is the time to raise our collective ambitions. With the 2015 deadline for the Millennium Development Goals fast approaching, we must intensify our efforts to

reach all of these lifesaving targets. We must prepare a bold and practical post-2015 development agenda. And we must continue to combat intolerance, save people caught in conflicts and establish lasting peace.

The United Nations is not just a meeting place for diplomats. The United Nations is a peacekeeper disarming fighters, a health worker distributing medicine, a relief team aiding refugees, a human rights expert helping deliver justice.

In carrying out this global mission, we rely on countless friends and supporters. Non-governmental organiza-

tions, scientists, scholars, philanthropists, religious leaders, business executives and concerned citizens are critical to our success. No single leader, country or institution can do everything. But, each of us, in our own way, can do something.

On this UN Day, let us reaffirm our individual commitment and our collective resolve to live up to the ideals of the United Nations Charter and build a better world for all.

KOICA donates a car to SPEI

YANGON, 24 Oct—Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Resident Representative Mr Shin Man Shik donated a car for clerical works to Principal

of Institute of Sports and Physical Education (SPEI) (Yangon) Director U Tin Win at the same venue Tamway, here, this morning.

MNA



Ma May Thanda Kyi of Shan State competes in basic education level aged 10-15 girls' old song contest.

MNA

After final debate, Obama says election comes down to

US trust

NEW YORK, 24 Oct— President Barack Obama warned voters on Tuesday that Republican rival Mitt Romney cannot be trusted to deal honestly with the public as the presidential campaign shifted from televised confrontation to a frantic dash for votes.

After three televised debates that have boosted Romney's prospects before the 6 November election, Obama delivered what is likely to be his closing argument: that, unlike Romney, he has been honest with voters about his plans to deliver a broadly shared prosperity over the next four years.

"There is no more

serious issue in a presidential campaign than trust," Obama told a rally of 11,000 people in Florida. "Everything he's doing right now is trying to hide his real positions in order to win this election."

The charge ties together several critiques of Romney, from shifting policy stances that Obama mockingly attributes to "Romnesia" to a persistent charge that the wealthy former private-equity executive is more concerned with helping fellow millionaires than the struggling middle class. Obama leads Romney among likely voters by a statistically insignificant margin of 1 percentage point, according to Reuters/Ipsos daily



US President Barack Obama speaks during a campaign rally in Delray, Florida on 23 Oct 2012.—REUTERS

tracking poll on Tuesday. Obama unveiled a glossy booklet outlining his second-term agenda, which will serve as an important prop for his massive grassroots network.

The campaign said it will print 3.5 million copies for volunteers to distribute in door-to-door canvassing. The booklet contains no new proposals, but could help

rebut what Romney aides say will be their central message in the final two weeks of the campaign: that the country cannot afford another four years of an Obama presidency because he has no plan to fix the sluggish economy.

Romney spokesman Kevin Madden called the plan a "glossy panic button." Reuters

China-Vietnam public security ministerial meeting opens in Hanoi

Asia

HANOI, 24 Oct— The third China-Vietnam public security ministerial meeting on cooperation against crime opened here on Tuesday with the attendance of Chinese Minister of Public Security Meng Jianzhu and his Vietnamese counterpart Tran Dai Quang.

During the meeting, Meng said since its inception in 2008, the mechanism of the two countries' cooperation in the fight against crime has served as a platform for the two ministries to enhance mutual trust and make feasible plans for cooperation, which has strongly pushed forward the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership between China and Vietnam.

Meng said with joint

efforts of both sides, participants to the meeting achieved consensus on a wide range of issues, including the fight against terrorism, illegal immigration, trafficking of women and children, drug production and trade, gambling, telecommunications fraud and counterfeit money.

Meng stressed that the two countries' public security ministries should take this opportunity to implement the consensus of the meeting, tap the cooperation potentials, raise the level of bilateral cooperation in combating crime and maintaining social order, in order to contribute to the long-term healthy and stable development of China-Vietnam relations.—Xinhua

Senior Chinese leader praises publicity work



Li Changchun (C), a Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, speaks at a meeting on the work of China's publicity, ideological and cultural fields, in Beijing, capital of China, on 23 Oct 2012. XINHUA

BEIJING, 24 Oct— Senior Chinese leader Li Changchun on Tuesday expressed his appreciation for the achievements made in China's publicity, ideological and cultural fields over the last five years.

Li, a Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central

Committee, made the remarks at a meeting he presided over on Tuesday.

He urged efforts to follow the future arrangements of the upcoming 18th CPC National Congress and make further contributions. In the five years since the last CPC National Congress, the work of publicity, ideological and cultural

officials has helped the country to seek agreements and unite the people against the background of profound changes in the international situation, arduous tasks regarding domestic development and more diverse public opinions, Li said. Achievements have been made in Marxism theory research, journalism-

China

related publicity, innovation regarding reports on major emergencies and events and the promotion of the socialist core value system. Moral education for juvenile and college students has been strengthened and improved and "red tourism" at the country's revolutionary sites has witnessed healthy development, Li said.

Reform efforts in the country's cultural system have seen progress and the cultural services system has been further improved, the official said. Li also praised innovations made in international communication and cultural exchanges, adding that the international communication capability of key news organizations has been promoted.—Xinhua



Guests attend the discussion session of the "New Growth Engines for the World Economy" during the 2012 Tsinghua Management Global Forum at Tsinghua University in Beijing, capital of China, on 23 Oct 2012. About 600 business leaders, scholars and officials took part in the annual forum themed on "New Trends in the World Economy and Transnational Management".—XINHUA

Qatari Emir calls for Palestinian unity

BEIJING, 24 Oct— The Emir of Qatar has called for Palestinian unity, on the first visit to Gaza by a head of state since Hamas took power in 2007. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani urged the Hamas group and its Palestinian rival Fatah, which holds power in the West Bank, to reconcile.

He said, "The division between the Palestinians and the Arabs has caused more damage to the Palestinian case than the repeated Israeli aggression.

There are no peace negotiations, and there is no clear strategy of liberation. Why shouldn't brothers sit together and reconcile? They have two choices: Either forge a just peace with Israel's consent, or force Israel to agree to peace."

The Qatari leader was given a hero's welcome and greeted by a guard of honour ceremony as he entered Gaza. Qatar has become one of Hamas' main benefactors since it fell out with Syria and relations cooled with Iran.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu looks at the area, where Israel plans to build some 800 new housing units, during his visit to the east Jerusalem Jewish settlement of Gilo on 23 Oct 2012.—XINHUA

Middle East

During his visit, Al-Thani pledged 400 million dollars for building projects in the Gaza Strip, which has been ravaged by conflict with Israel.—Xinhua

EU to mull plan to bring non-euro states into bank union

EU

BRUSSELS, 24 Oct— European Union countries will examine a plan this week to allow the ECB to supervise banks in states outside the euro zone alongside those within the currency area, according to an EU document that lays down limits on the central bank's role.

Last week, EU leaders agreed to build a new system of supervision led by the European Central Bank, as a step towards a banking union where chiefly euro zone countries would jointly back problem lenders, in a move to underpin the currency.

But the plan has sparked concerns among the 10 countries in the wider European Union that do not use the euro

that they will be indirectly affected by the ECB's new supervisory powers and put at a disadvantage, whether they join the scheme or not. For the framework to become reality, diplomats must first find a way to accommodate countries outside the euro zone, such as Sweden or Denmark, who may want to join the scheme.

On Tuesday, EU officials circulated a document outlining one way to break the impasse, by establishing a supervisory board within the ECB, a body that would play a role in supervising lenders and where non-euro zone members would have a vote. "This helps square the circle for non-euro countries," said one EU official. "It is an

effort to find equal treatment." In the draft legislation obtained by Reuters, officials make clear that the final say is with the ECB although it must explain itself if it rejects a decision by the supervisory body. "The ECB will take all the key decisions," said a second EU official. This may worry a country outside the euro zone such as Hungary, which wants equal representation if it is to sign up. Granting this is legally difficult, however, because the central bank answers only to the 17 members of the euro zone. As a concession to those worried that the ECB's new remit will be too wide, the document fences off the central bank's powers from those of each country's agencies.—Reuters

US federal agency to switch to iPhone, drop BlackBerry

NEW YORK, 24 Oct—The US Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) said it will end its contract with BlackBerry maker Research In Motion Ltd (RIM TO) in favor of Apple Inc's (AAPL O) iPhone, dealing a new blow to RIM just months before it launches a vital new device. The agency said in a solicitation document posted last week that it intends to buy iPhones for more than 17,600 employees—a purchase worth \$2.1 million.

The agency said it has relied on RIM for eight years, but the company "can no longer meet the mobile technology needs of the agency." It also said it analyzed

Apple's iOS-based devices and Google Inc's (GOOG O) Android operating system and concluded that, for the near term, Apple's iPhone services offer the best technology for the agency because of Apple's tight controls of the hardware platform and operating system. The agency said the iPhone will be used by a "variety of agency personnel, including, but not limited to, Homeland Security Investigations, Enforcement and Removal Operations and Office of the Principal Legal Advisor employees."

"The iPhone services will allow these individuals to leverage reliable, mo-

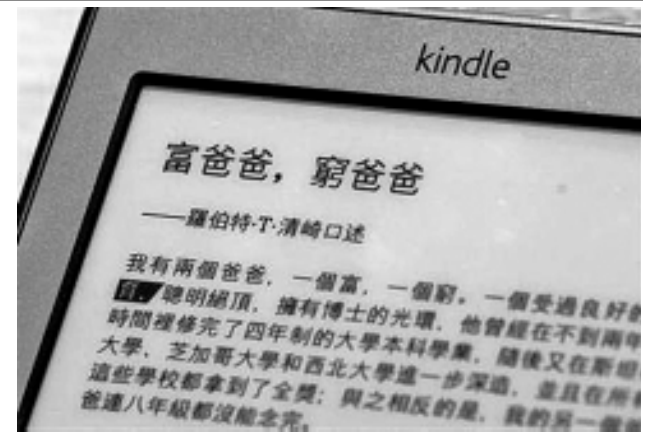
bile technology on a secure and manageable platform in furtherance of the agency's mission." Last week, consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton said it was dropping BlackBerry and switching to iPhone and Android smartphones for its staff of around 25,000. Analysts said that other businesses and agencies are likely to follow suit especially in light of demand for other smartphones. "You're going to see this happen more and more," said Ed Snyder, an analyst at Charter Equity Research.

"They still have excellent security ... but if your handsets are a brick that no one wants to use it's going

Technology

to drag down your business." RIM has high hopes that its new BB10 smartphone, expected to in early 2013, will compete with iPhones and Android phones. The BB10 will come equipped with a revamped operating system and is aimed at putting an end to a precipitous decline in RIM's market share over the past year and longer.

"Of course, we are disappointed by this decision," RIM vice president of government solutions Paul Lucier said in an emailed statement. "We are working hard to make our new mobile computing platform, BlackBerry 10, meets the future needs of government customers." RIM said that, after accounting for the ICE move, it had one million government customers in North America. RIM's advantage has been what industry experts widely describe as superior security and device-management features that have made the BlackBerry appealing to corporate IT managers and a crucial tool for police, government and military use. But that advantage is waning with the growing number of providers that help companies beef up security on iPhones and Androids and with Apple working on better security on its devices.—Reuters



An Amazon Kindle displays a section of the Chinese edition of "Rich Dad, Poor Dad" at the e-Book corner of the Hong Kong Book Fair on 18 July 2012.

REUTERS

Amazon says new \$199 Kindle Fire HD is top seller

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Oct—Amazon.com Inc (AMZN O) said on Monday that its \$199 Kindle Fire HD tablet has been the best-selling product on the company's website since the gadget went on sale more than a month ago.

Amazon started selling a range of new Kindle Fires on September 6 and the company said the 7-inch HD model has out-sold all other products on Amazon worldwide since then.

Amazon did not disclose actual sales numbers, but a spokeswoman for the company said the top-seller status was based on unit sales.

Amazon Chief Ex-

ecutive Jeff Bezos recently told the BBC that it sells the tablets at cost, hoping to generate profits when customers use the devices to buy products and services from the company.

The announcement came as Apple Inc (AAPL O) prepares to launch a smaller, cheaper tablet of its own on Tuesday. The device, dubbed the iPad Mini, may challenge Amazon's success at the lower end of the booming tablet market. Meanwhile, Amazon has launched larger, more expensive Kindle Fire HD tablets, aimed at Apple's full-sized iPad, which still dominates the sector.—Reuters



A customer holds up an Apple iPhone 5 to pose for a photo during an exclusive sale by Belgian operator Mobistar in Brussels on 28 Sept 2012.—REUTERS

Italian scientists convicted over earthquake warning

Science

L'AQUILA, (Italy), 24 Oct—Six scientists and a government official were sentenced to six years in prison for manslaughter by an Italian court on Monday for failing to give adequate warning of an earthquake that killed more than 300 people in L'Aquila in 2009.

The seven, all members of a body called the National Commission for the Forecast and Prevention of Major Risks, were accused of negligence and malpractice in evaluating the danger and keeping the central city informed of the risks.

The case has drawn condemnation from international bodies including the American Geophysical Union, which said the risk of litigation may deter scientists from advising governments or even working in seismology and seismic risk assessments.

"The issue here is about miscommunication of science, and we should not be putting responsible scientists who gave measured, scientifically accurate information in prison," Richard Walters of

Oxford University's Department of Earth Sciences said.

"This sets a very dangerous precedent and I fear it will discourage other scientists from offering their advice on natural hazards and trying to help society in this way."

The scientists, Franco Barberi, Enzo Boschi, Giulio Selvaggi, Gian Michele Calvi, Claudio Eva and Mauro Dolce as well as Bernardo De Bernardis—a senior official in the Civil Protection Authority—were convicted of criminal manslaughter and causing criminal injury.



An Italian military carabinieri walks on debris past destroyed buildings after an earthquake, in downtown Aquila, in this on 6 April, 2009 file photo.—REUTERS

The 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck L'Aquila, in the Abruzzo region, at 3:32 am on 6 April, wrecking tens of thousands of buildings, injuring more than 1,000 people and killing 308.

At the heart of the case was the question of whether the government-appointed experts gave an overly reassuring picture of the risk facing the town, which contained many ancient and fragile buildings and which had already been partially destroyed three times by earthquakes over the centuries.—Reuters

Apple set to unwrap mini-iPad to take on Amazon, Google

Technology

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Oct—Apple Inc (AAPL O) is expected to make its biggest product move on Tuesday since debuting the iPad two years ago, launching a smaller, cheaper tablet into a market staked out by Amazon.com Inc (AMZN O) and Google Inc (GOOG O).

Apple hopes to beat back their charge onto its home turf of consumer electronics hardware, while safeguarding its lead in the larger 10-inch tablet space that even deep-pocketed rivals like Samsung Electronics (005930.KS) have found tough to penetrate.

Amazon's Kindle and Google's Nexus 7 have grabbed a chunk of the lower end of the tablet market and proved demand for a pocket-sized slate exists, helping force Apple into a space it has avoided and at times derided, analysts say.

A smaller tablet would mark the first device to be added to Apple's compact portfolio under Chief Executive Tim Cook, who took



Customers gather outside an Apple store before the release of iPhone 5 in Munich early on 21 Sept 2012.

REUTERS

over from co-founder Steve Jobs just before his death.

"Apple sensed early that they had a real winner with the iPad and that has proven to be correct," said Lars Albright, co-founder of mobile advertising startup SessionM and a former Apple ad executive.

"They have a large market share, and to protect that market share they have got to be innovative," he said. Apple's invitation-only event, where it is expected to unveil the tablet, gets underway at 10 am PT (1700 GMT) in San Jose.

Wall Street analysts have said for months that Apple was planning a less expensive version of the iPad to take on cheaper competing devices, a move

they say might hurt its margins, but prevent its rivals from dominating an increasingly important segment.

The chief rival is Amazon, which proved a 7-inch tablet at around \$200 has consumer appeal. The Kindle Fire, released last year for \$199, was one of the hottest-selling holiday gadgets. It pressured Amazon's margins but gave it potentially millions of new high-spending customers.

Amazon sold more than a million Kindles a week during December, paving the way for others like Google with its Nexus 7 to try and beat Apple in a market the company created.

Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

UK report rejects EU plan to curb high-speed trading

Business

LONDON, 24 Oct — European Union plans to clamp down on trading shares faster than the blink of an eye could damage market efficiency and reduce liquidity, a UK government-sponsored paper said, rejecting a key Brussels proposal to force traders to hold shares for longer.

European Union lawmakers last month called for high-frequency trading (HFT) systems to post share orders for at least half a second, far longer than currently. HFT systems, which account for about 30 percent of equity trading in the UK and over 60 percent in the United States, have been criticised by regulators

in recent years for increasing market volatility.

A report by the Foresight Project, which was sponsored by the British government and gathered evidence from 150 academics and experts from 20 countries, said plans to force minimum resting times on orders could reduce liquidity.

“The Project has found that some of the commonly held negative perceptions surrounding HFT are not supported by the available evidence and, indeed, that HFT may have modestly improved the functioning of markets in some respects,” said John Beddington, the UK’s chief scientific advisor and lead author of

the report.

“However it is believed that policy makers are justified in being concerned about the possible effects of HFT,” he added.

Out of nine EU policy proposals examined, the Foresight paper found two were effective while seven were “problematic”, including a plan to force HFT to post prices to buy and sell at all times, a measure designed to stop them from pulling out when markets get choppy.

The report found no direct evidence that HFT increased volatility, nor evidence to suggest it has led to an increase in market abuse.—Reuters

Blue chips higher as ARM gains after strong earnings

Business



The London Stock Exchange is seen during their morning rush hour in the City of London on 11 April 2011. —REUTERS

LONDON, 24 Oct — Blue chips edged higher at the open as strong results from ARM Holdings helped alleviate some concerns about the incipient earnings season. Shares in ARM rose 1.4 percent as the chip designer posted a 22 percent

rise in three-quarter profit, slightly ahead of average market expectations, after it made further inroads into markets like digital TVs and microcontrollers.

It was among top risers on Britain’s FTSE 100 index, which was up 8.80

points, or 0.2 percent, by 7.01 am British time, reversing a fraction of its 34 points slide in the previous two sessions.—Reuters

Beans show promise in diabetes

NEW YORK, 24 Oct — Downing a cup of beans or lentils every day may help people with type 2 diabetes control their blood sugar and possibly reduce their risk of heart attacks and stroke, according to a small study out today.

Researchers found that compared with a diet rich in whole grains, getting a daily dose of legumes led to small drops in an important measure of blood sugar as well as in blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

After three months on the bean diet, study participants’ estimated 10-



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

BOSTON, 24 Oct — The pharmacy tied to a deadly US meningitis outbreak escaped harsh punishment from health regulators several times in the years leading up to a deadly US meningitis outbreak that has raised questions about oversight of the customized drug mixing industry, newly released state records show.

Problems at the New England Compounding

Centre (NECC) in Framingham, Massachusetts, date as far back as 1999, the year after it began operations, according to hundreds of pages of documents obtained under a Freedom of Information Act request.

And the documents show regulators refraining from the harshest sanctions available to them, even as the list of complaints against NECC continued to grow.

The documents come to light after 23 people have died and close to 300 have become ill with fungal meningitis linked to steroid shots from NECC given to thousands of patients across the country. And a top medical expert says the outbreak is not over and there will be more cases in the coming weeks. Among the reported problems was a company official handing out blank prescriptions. And an outside evaluation firm found inadequate documentation and inadequate process controls involving sterilization at NECC in 2006, the documents show.

“Although your facility has seen significant upgrades in facility design for the sterile compounding operation, there were numerous significant gaps identified during the assessment,” according to a 2006 letter to NECC from Pharmacy Support Inc, an outside evaluation firm.—Reuters

Health

said Dr David Jenkins of St Michael’s Hospital in Toronto, who led the work.

“They are also good sources of fiber and that tends to be associated with lower cholesterol,” he told Reuters Health.

Jenkins said that even though the drops were not huge, they were impressive in part because the whole-grain comparison diet is a healthy one and in part because people in the study were already on diabetes and blood pressure drugs.

“We hope that this could be the point that allows you to delay medication use,” Jenkins said. But, he added, “if we can keep people on medications throughout their life and not have complications of diabetes, we have won.” Legumes such as beans, chickpeas and lentils are already recommended for diabetics due to their low glycemic index, a measure of how far and how fast a given food sends up blood sugar. But there are few studies of their direct effects in diabetes, according to Jenkins and his colleagues.

They divided 121 people with diabetes into two groups, one of which was instructed to up their intake of cooked legumes by at least a cup a day. The other was told to eat more whole wheat products to boost their fiber intake.

Reuters



Beans

year risk of cardiovascular disease had fallen from 10.7 percent to 9.6 percent, according to findings in the Archives of Internal

Medicine. “Legumes are good protein sources, and proteins tend to dampen the blood glucose response and they lower blood pressure,”

Virgin Media draws record new customer numbers

Business

LONDON, 24 Oct — A high-profile advertising campaign by Olympic champions Mo Farah and Usain Bolt helped pay-TV group Virgin Media to sign up a record number of net new cable customers in its third quarter and boost its profitability.

Virgin, which provides pay-TV, broadband and telephony, said it had added 39,500 customers in the three months to the end of September, with subscribers drawn to the super-fast broadband offering and TiVo digital TV service.

The average spend per user was also up 1.8 percent and the number of people dropping the service was down, as customer loyalty increased. The willingness

of customers to sign up for more expensive packages meant the group posted third quarter revenues up 2.8 percent to 1 billion pounds (\$1.60 billion), in line with forecasts, and operating cash flow up 6.1 percent.

“This has been a quarter where continued strong demand for superfast broadband and TiVo has led to lower churn and meaningful cable customer growth,” Chief Executive Neil Berkett said. “Combined with progress in our business division, we have again delivered solid financial progress with continued revenue and OCF growth, translating into strong Free Cash Flow and shareholder returns.”—Reuters

Trinity shares slump on hacking claims

Business



British newspapers are displayed at a newsagent’s stand in central London on 22 Jan 2011. —REUTERS

LONDON, 24 Oct — Shares in publisher Trinity Mirror fell 12 percent in early trading on Tuesday after four people filed legal claims accusing the group’s newspapers of hacking into their phones to generate

salacious stories.

Lawyer Mark Lewis said he had lodged the claims in court on Monday on behalf of the former England football manager Sven-Goran Eriksson and three others. Shares in the group

were down 12 percent at 63 pence at 7.25 am British time.

The only company previously sued for illegally hacking voicemail messages was Rupert Murdoch’s News International, publisher of the now-defunct News of the World newspaper, which was closed down under a wave of claims against the tabloid last year.

Hacking allegations have in the past been directed at the Mirror titles, but the publisher of papers including the Daily Mirror, Sunday Mirror and People has always strenuously denied any wrongdoing.

Reuters

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Wat Phnom, National Museum, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham accompanied by Cambodian Tourism Minister Mr Thong Khom, the Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia and the military attaché, and personnel visited Wat Phnom (Temple of Mountains) in Phnom Penh on 22 October.

The Vice-President offered light and fragrance to the Buddha Image in the temple and made cash contribution for the temple which is a historic religious edifice built in 1372.

The Vice-President and party then visited National Museum to view antiques from Angkor Wat, works of arts of ancient times excavated from



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits National Museum in Cambodia.—MNA

across the nation, utensils and religious statues of ancient Khmer, royal items and regalia of ancient

monarchs on display there.

They also visited Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum which was used as a centre

of torture known as security prison for thousands of prisoners in the time of Khmer Rogue government.—MNA

Workshop on trading development held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—A workshop on Trading Development was launched at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Commerce, here, this morning, with an address of Union Minister for

Commerce U Win Myint.

Union Minister U Win Myint said, in his speech, that Myanmar had been on the path full of potentials for enabling to trade not only in Asian countries but also

in international community in the near-term since it has progress of the current reforms.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing

shared his knowledge. Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Economic and Trading Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein made a suggestion on trading sector development.

Ten resource persons read out their respective papers on trading development. State/Region economic ministers presented reports on progress of economic development activities.

MNA

News in Brief

Development tasks undertaken in Sagaing Region

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye looked into progress of Sagaing University construction project, construction of Theinchaung

(Magyiphyu) Dam in Wetlet Township and maintenance of Kangyi Lake in North Kyaukka Village in Monywa Township on 18 October.

Automobile showroom opened

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and party attended the inauguration ceremony of Zeyar Kyeldagunthit

Automobile Showroom on Ywama Kyaung Road in Ward 1 of Hline Township on 21 October morning.

Uplift of health standard stressed

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint gave instructions on priority to be given to uplift of health standard of people and conducting

advanced research to officials at Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) in Dagon Township on 18 October.

Religious workshop commences

The national level workshop on enhancement of religions was held at the hall of the Ministry of Religious

Affairs, here, at 9 am on 22 October, with an address by Union Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung.

Construction tasks for development inspected

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspected progress of Seikkyi-khanaungto suspension

bridge and construction of retaining walls in Seikkyi Island and Dala Township on 22 October afternoon.

Polish Senate Speaker arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 24 Oct—A goodwill delegation led by Mr Bogdan Borusewicz, Speaker of the Senate, the Republic of Poland and party arrived here by air this evening. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

Hlawga to be kept open on Tadingyut Fullmoon day

YANGON, 24 Oct—Hlawga Natural Park extensively opens from 8 am to 6 pm on 30 October (Fullmoon day of Thadingyut for public convenience.

MNA

Houses of local people in two wards of Kyaukpyu Township are in blaze.—MNA

National socioeconomic development implemented in harmony with environmental sustainability

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—In his speech at a national level seminar held at Inngyin Hall of Forest Department, here, this morning, Union Minister at President's Office U Tin Naing Thein said that changes in policies would be made for participation of private sector and local people in the areas of forest conservation, establishment of forest plantation and timber extraction as forest management works could not be accomplished by the ministry concerned and that taking care of the suggestions of the experts and voices of the people proved that attentions were being placed on the role of the people.

Next, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun said that the seminar would focus climate change,

environmental conservation and forest resources, biodiversity, long-term investment in forestry sector, establishment of private-owned teak and hardwood plantation, forest products, development of wood-based industries, community forest plantations, development of eco-tourism, green growth and green economy, land use in forest reserves, law, bylaw and rules and regulations of forestry sector and human resources development.

The seminar was attended by the Union ministers, chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and secretaries, the deputy ministers, departmental heads and experts from various sectors.—MNA

Attorney-General of Union receives Director-General of Japanese Ministry of Justice

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin met a delegation led by Director-General Mr. SAKAI Kunihiko of Ministry of Justice, Japan, at the hall of the Attorney-General of the Union's Office this

afternoon.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on cooperation in legal affairs between the Japanese Ministry of Justice and the office of the Attorney-General of the Union in the future.—MNA

One dead, 28 others injured in Kyaukpyu incident

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Communal strikes broke out in two wards in Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State while a crowd started firing houses as of 8 pm yesterday. The crowd has dispersed at about 1 am as authority concerned could take control of the situation.

The incident destroyed 69 houses, leaving about 20 people injured.

There occurred similar incidents again there at about 8 am today.

According to the figures at 3.30 pm, over 700 houses were burnt down, and one man was dead

and eight others, injured. Officials from Rakhine State Government and local authority concerned visited those regions and are supervising relief and resettlement, rule of law, restoring of peace and control of conflicts.

MNA



LOCAL

Tavatimsa Festival on schedule in Mawgyun



MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 24 Oct—Tavatimsa festival will be held on a grand scale in Mawlamyinegyun of Ayeyawady Region from 29 October to 2 November. After the opening ceremony, the meals offering ceremony, 1000 oil lamps, 1000 flowers and 1000 fruits will be donated to the Buddha image in dedicating to the Lord Buddha on 14th waxing of

Thadingyut.

The Pujaniya will start at 8 pm on 1st waning of Thadingyut. The festival will depict the descending of Lord Buddha from Tavatimsa to the world with illumination and coloured slights.

On 2nd waning of Thadingyut morning, bags of rice and alms will be offered to over 900 members of the Sangha from 43 monasteries in the town.

In the evenings of 2nd and 3rd waning of Thadingyut, Ashin Zawana Shwepyitha Sayadaw will administer the Desana to the lay persons.

Kyemon

Traditional boat race for Intha at PhaungdawU Pagoda Pujaniya



NYAUNGSHWE, 24 Oct—The Intha traditional boat race in commemoration of the PhaungdawU Pagoda Buddha Pujaniya was held in Nyaungshwe on 22 October morning.

The boat race comprising men's 46-oar

event, men's over 100-oar event and women's 26-oar event was crowded with spectators of the region including tourists.

After the race, Wanbe stood first and Kayla Maung second, and Mongthauk and Shwepyitha secured the consolation prizes.

Four teams participated

in the men's over 100-oar event in which Kayla (Seikta) won the first prize, Shwepyitha the second and Lethitauk and Aingdaungtyi consolation prizes.

In the women's 26-oar event, Mongthauk team stood first and Aingdaungtyi team second.

Myanma Alinn

Emergency first-aid help on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Three ambulances are ready to be used for providing assistance in emergency situation on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, said in-charge of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Red Cross Society Daw Than Than Myint.

The society helps injuries in traffic accidents or any illness along the expressway round the clock, she said. Six police stations constituted with 40 policemen are deployed along the expressway. One ambulance each is stationed at Pyu Police Station, Myoma Kyaung Police Station and Emergency Care Station. Moreover, the first-aid course in emergency situation has been trained to the policemen.

Moreover, farm entrepreneur U Ko Ko Gyi

at mile post No 122/3 bought an ambulance on his own for providing necessary services to the needy persons.

The emergency first-aid station is under construction near Pyu Toll Gate, and it has completed by 70 per cent. It was reported that twelve members of Red Cross Society give emergency first-aid treatment to the people along Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon Expressway as of early November of 2011. The signboards bearing May I Help You at the toll gates, police stations and significant mile posts are put up.

Those wishing to receive emergency assistance on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway may dial 09-49341961 and 09-42852600 and 09-42852700 of firm entrepreneur U Ko Ko Gyi.

Myanma Alinn

Scrutiny Board constituted for third step

YANGON, 24 Oct—With the aim of ensuring higher standard of Myanmar motion picture world, the Third Step Scrutiny Committee for Selecting Outstanding Motion Picture Award for 2011 was constituted with the participation of 17 members on 23 October.

The committee comprises U Tin Kha

(Tekkatho Tin Kha) of Myanmar Writers Association, Hinthada U Myint Ngwe of Myanmar Music Association, UKyi Soe Tun, U Min Naing, Tekkatho Yin Yin Le, U Sonny Tin, U Po Htaung, U Hla Hsan Oo, U Aung Ko Latt and Daw Myint Myint Khin from Myanmar Motion Picture Organization.—MNA

Uncensored DVDs seized in Htaukkyant

YANGON, 24 Oct—A squad comprising SIP Naing Zaw Hla and police members from Htaukkyant Police Station of Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region searched the Video CDs

rental shop of Aung Myat Phone (a) Tha Gyi, 30 on Thukha Road of Tilawka Ward in Htaukkyant of Mingaladon Township at 2 pm on 19 October.

The squad seized 30

DVDs of Myanmar dramas without censor and K 4000 notes.

Htaukkyant Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against him.

Myanma Alinn

Maiden flight of MAI to Bodh Gaya on 1 Nov

MANDALAY, 24 Oct—Myanmar Airways International (MAI) will run the new flight for Mandalay-Gaya-Mandalay as of 1 November with the aim of enabling Buddhists from Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions, Shan, Kachin and Chin states to direct visit Bodh Gaya.

MAI will use 180-passenger-capacity A-320 Air Bus along the Mandalay-Gaya-Mandalay route thrice a week. If the passenger demands are higher, the flights will be extended.

With regard to the new flight schedule, Ma Aye Mra Tha of MAI said, "The new flight is aimed at ensuring convenience of aviation for the local people in Upper Myanmar. The flight was extended due to increasing number of Myanmar Buddhist

visitors to the Bodh Gaya annually. At present, the reservation is full at all seats of the flight."

Khwado festival 27 Oct

YANGON, 24 Oct—Chin traditional Khwado festival will be held at No 132 of MBC Judson Memorial Hall on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township, here,

at noon on 27 October.

The festival will be organized by Tiddim Township Association (Yangon).

Myanma Alinn



A-320 airbuses of Myanmar Airways International seen at airport.

In addition to Mandalay-Gaya-Mandalay flight, the MAI plan to fly the Mandalay-Bangkok-Mandalay, Yangon-Bangkok-Yangon, Yangon-Singapore-Yangon, Bangkok-Yangon and the new flights to Korea, Japan and China (Taipei).

Concerning the Mandalay-Gaya-Mandalay

flight, U Maung Maung Aye of Maha Toe Bodh Gaya Pilgrimage Agency said, "It is the best way for pilgrims of Upper Myanmar to Bodh Gaya. At present, the people from Upper Myanmar are increasing in the number of pilgrims. I am pleased that after the passport office had been opened in Mandalay, airlines emerged in Mandalay one after another. I welcome

the new airlines. About a half number of pilgrims will include in the passengers from the maiden trip of Mandalay-Gaya-Mandalay flight."

At present, MAI operates six A-320 airbuses its flight schedules.

Of these new flights, Mandalay-Gaya-Mandalay route is the first ever flight in Myanmar.

Myanma Alinn

Free dental and oral care services provided

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 24 Oct—Under the arrangement of Myanmar Dental Association, the dental and oral talks was held in conjunction with the free dental care service, jointly organized by Arrojam Social Association of Mawlamyinegyun and Mawlamyinegyun Township Association, at Pithsimayon Monastery

in Mawlamyinegyun of Ayeyawady Region on 20 October morning.

Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Dental Association Dr Aung Than, Dr Kaung Myat Thwin and Dr Aung Zay gave talks on dental and oral diseases.

After that, a total of 25 dentists gave free dental and oral care services to 350 patients.—*Myanma Alinn*



PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 25 October, 2012

Need for reproductive health education

Abortion has come under the spot light as the country's feminists demand the right to safe abortion. In a country like Myanmar where the Buddhist teachings overwhelmingly influence the majority of the population, it is hard to legitimize the right to abortion as the most important percept for the Buddhists is to avoid killing or harming other's life.

In fact, the abortion is not the issue that is good to argue about because it is a matter of life. And it is illegal in the country. Also, it is not the sustainable answer. If we argue about it, we will find more and more differences. The common ground lies beyond.

We need to trace back the issue to its origin. We failed to raise public awareness of reproductive health. It has been a taboo in Myanmar. Lack of knowledge about reproductive health is a major cause of unwanted pregnancy and clandestine abortion. The country is in urgent need to start candid forums for reproductive health. Prevalence of contraceptives in Myanmar is still limited.

In the long run, we need to change the condition that women are vulnerable population in Myanmar. We need to create equal – neither better nor worse – social status for girls and women of the country. To be optimistic, Myanmar is a country where gender discrimination is much less active if compared with most of fellow Asian countries.

Another challenge is that the country is still too shy to touch upon the sex education. It is not the task that a single organization could perform. The task calls for the overwhelming participation of all stakeholders.

Development of agriculture sector discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Deputy Minister U Ohn Than exchanged views on providing more assistance in development of agriculture sector and rural areas and implementing practical cooperation with added momentum with Chief Representative Mr Masahiko Tanaka of Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) and party at the ministry this afternoon.—MNA



Work hand in hand to reduce disaster...

(from page 16)
developments; that these included among others granting of amnesties to prisoners, the successful convention of by-election in a free, fair and transparent manner in April 2012, the abolition of censorship of media or the fourth estate and the increased participation of the people in the political process.

He said that the Hluttaw had been functioning more effectively and able to adopt landmark laws through the democratic practices and their government and stakeholders are now able to foster a new political culture of understanding, tolerance, patience and constant dialogue.

The Vice-President said he believed that the cessation of all armed conflicts was a prerequisite for the building of a genuine democracy; and that high priority was placed on achieving a lasting peace in the country and they were working their utmost to

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham met Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and wife, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Ye Naing Myo and wife, staff and families of embassy and military attaché's office and overseas Myanmar scholars at the residence of the ambassador on 22 evening.

The Vice-President urged them to be good diplomats and focus on proper relations with the host and other global countries as he noted the recent positive changes in Myanmar's relations with global countries thanks to upward trends in age and institution of the country. The President's dialogue with western countries in his UN visit has boosted their confidence in the incumbent government, said the Vice-President. Myanmar is dealing properly with international community with a focus on sanctuary of self-interests like every other nation that puts national interests at the fore in engaging with other countries.

Every nation views Myanmar a country with large economic potential and allowance of arrival and

bring an end to the lengthy hostilities in the region of ethnic nationalities.

Looking back to one of the areas the UN had taken active participation and made enormous efforts was that at the Rio+20 in Rio de Janeiro, the world leaders had finalized an agreement on path for a sustainable future with the theme of "The Future We Want". Governments, civil societies and multilateral development banks had announced hundreds of voluntary commitments to create a more sustainable future for the benefit of the planet and its people. Commitments were made on the Sustainable Energy for All, which would initiate towards ensuring energy access, doubling energy sufficiency and doubling the share of renewable energy all by 2030. More than 50 governments from Africa, Asia, Latin America and developing small island states had engaged with initiative to develop energy plans and programmes. These achievements were an enormous progress for the UN and were done by the collaboration with the international community which shares common goals

and interest.

The Vice-President continued saying that more frequent occurrences of natural disasters posed an increasing threat to countries around the world. The Hydro Framework for Action (HFA) which came into being after the Indian Ocean tsunami had claimed lives of almost 230, 000 people in 2004, outlined priorities and offered guidelines and practical means for achieving disaster resilience in advance; and that its goals were to substantially reduce disaster risks by 2015 by building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters and to reduce loss of lives and environment assets when natural disasters strike.

The Vice-President said that the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar would like to reiterate the commitment made at the UN General Assembly and urge the international community to work hand in hand with each other to reduce disaster risk and find ways for an effective mechanism in promoting regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction management.

Next, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko

Ko read out the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein on the occasion of the 67th Anniversary United Nations Day.

The Resident Coordinator of the UN Agencies in Myanmar Mr. Ashok Nigam read out the message sent by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the occasion of the 67th Anniversary United Nations Day. Afterwards, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko and Dr Mya Aye and the UN Resident Coordinator presented prizes to winners of essay contest to mark the 67th Anniversary United Nations Day in basic education level.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party observed the booth in commemoration of the United Nations Day.

Also present at the ceremony were Union ministers, the deputy ministers, chairpersons of Hluttaw committees and Hluttaw representatives, UN officials, ambassadors and officials of foreign embassies in Myanmar, special guests, outstanding students and their parents and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham calls for assuring national interests



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham greets embassy staff.—MNA

departure via border regions, issuance of arrival visas and improving stability of the State recently have led to a surge in number of tourists, resulting in significant development of hospitality industry, noted the Vice-President who said potential prosperity would also be used in furnishing of Myanmar embassies in global countries.

The Vice-President stressed the need for capable

teachers plus modern learning aids like projector and computer as a prerequisite to turn out outstanding students. He called the scholars for language proficiency, emphasizing the infective-ness of a single foreign language proficiency in modern world which demands mastery of nearly five foreign languages. The Vice-President presented cash to off-spring of staff and

scholars.

The ambassador and wife hosted dinner to the Vice-President and party who left Phnom Penh following day. Cambodian Tourism Minister Mr Thong Khom, the Myanmar ambassador and officials saw off them at Phnom Penh International Airport and they arrived back here in the afternoon via Bangkok.

MNA

PYITHU HLUTTAW

Myanmar's total foreign debt is over USD 15000 million and domestic debt, over K 9,900,000 million



Pyithu Hluttaw representatives arrive at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall to attend Hluttaw session.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Fifth day session of Pyithu Hluttaw took place at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.10 am today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 382 MPs.

At today's session, five questions were answered, a report submitted and one bill, approved.

U Maung Toe of Minhla

Constituency raised the question on **"how the gross debt, revolving currency, foreign reserve currency and gold prices, according to the figures in 2011-2012 financial year"**, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Maung Maung Thein replied that Myanmar's total foreign debt (including capital plus interest) is USD 15089.434 million and domestic debt,

K 9,988,857 million. The circulating currency is K 6,199,122.95 million till the end of September (2012-2013 financial year). Foreign reserve currency and gold values are being calculated. It will be released separately.

With respect to the question **"how Myanmar's unemployment rate in 2011-2012 financial year"**, Deputy Minister for Labour

U Myint Thein replied that according to the estimated data, unemployment rate in 2011 was four percent. More prescribed figure could be released only after survey on worker strength is conducted in 2015-2016.

Regarding the question of U Shi Thee of Leshi Constituency on **"if there is any plan to appoint more primary assistant teachers in primary schools for having more access to free-primary education of children in border areas"**, Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe replied that the appointment of teachers in BEPSs with 55 students and below is two; the schools with 56-85 students, three; with 86-120 students, four; with 121-155 students, five; and with 156-190 students, six. So, there is no plan to implement it.

With respect to the question of U Khin Maung Shwe of Tamu Constituency on **"if there is any plan to build Yu creek-crossing bridge in Myothit sub-township in Tamu District"**, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win replied that K 120 million has been earmarked for

construction of 120-ft-long concrete bridge in fifth five-year short-term National Plan of 2013-2014 financial year.

It will be implemented after the allotted fund is received.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin replied to the questions of two representatives.

With respect to the question of U Soe Soe of Htigyaing Constituency on **"if there is any plan to carry out the tarmacking of Thabeikkyin junction-Myataung Junction-Bhamo road section on Mandalay-Tagaung-Katha-Bhamo Road as quickly as possible"**, the minister replied that Union additional capital fund of K 1000 millions for Thabeikkyin junction-Myataung Junction (2012-2013 financial year) and Union capital fund of K 3,000 million (2013-2014 financial year); Union additional capital fund of K 1000 millions for Myataung Junction-Bhamo road section (2012-2013 financial year); and Union capital fund of K 5031 million (2012-2013 financial year), have been asked.

Upgrade of road will

be carried out based on the funds received. Plan has been drafted for construction of a 12-ft-wide Mandalay-Bhamo road that is 175 mile and four furlongs long.

Regarding the question raised by U Shwe Maung of Buthidaung Constituency on behalf of U Aung Zaw Win of Maungtaung Constituency on **"how the ministry would assist in the prolonged construction of the Bridge (milepost No.1/15) at the entrance to Maungtaung"**, the minister replied that the bridge is nearly cent per cent complete. It will be put into service as of 30 October.

At report-submitting session, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee U Win Sein read out the committee's report.

At the bill-approval session, Hluttaw discussed and approved the each para of the amended proposal regarding Minimum Wage Bill (2012) submitted by the Ministry of Labour and decided to approve paras and sub-para of overall amended bill. The meeting came to an end at 12.50 pm and will go on at 10 am tomorrow.—MNA

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

More detailed information will be published in PSM to cover news based on peace journalism

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Regarding the question presented by U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No (12) about which law could be applied to sue foreign media while they make defamation to anyone or any organizations in Myanmar, Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi replied at the today's Amyotha Hluttaw session that they would be sued under the Law of Trot which is familiar and practised in international arena. If signals aired from aboard could be received in the territory of Myanmar, they would be under the judgment of courts in Myanmar as it had an effect on the country.

The Union minister pointed out whether there would be benefited or not because they the verdict of the court would be approved if they were sued outside.

Regarding the question about whether there is Spoke Authoritative Team led by the Minister for Information or not and its future tasks if it still exists, the Union minister answered that the Spoke Authoritative Team formed by State Peace and Development Council had been abolished and the Spokespersons and Information Team of the new government existed. There is no future task for the Spokespersons and Information Team as media

team and contact persons have been formed in accord with the directive of the Union government.

Regarding the question about whether there is a plan to report battle news in detail in state-owned dailies like the newspapers in the time of parliamentary democracy, the Union minister said that plans were being underway to be able to transform the state-owned dailies into public service media-PSM step by step and he hoped that more detailed information would be published in public service media that would cover the news based on peace journalism like the news reporting style in international media.—NLM

Severe disciplinary actions being taken against bad civil servants

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Nine disciplinary actions, plus legal actions, are being taken against civil servants with malpractices, said Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung at Amyotha Hluttaw session today.

He said that the President

Office is handling complaints submitted to the office in his discussion on the proposal of U Aung Nyein, Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Public Complaints and Petitions Committee for taking actions against law-breaching service personnel.

The minister called for withdrawal of the proposal as the government is penalizing civil servants who breach rules and laws severely. But, the parliament decided against the minister and approved the proposal with the majority vote.—NLM

Amyotha Hluttaw regular session continues for fifth day



Amyotha Hluttaw representatives seen at Amyotha Hluttaw's fifth day session.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Amyotha Hluttaw regular session continued for fifth day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this morning, attended by Deputy Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Mya Nyein and 199 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen

Kyaw Zan Myint replied to queries in detail raised by three Hluttaw representatives. Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency (1) and Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye of Kayin State Constituency (6) discussed the report of Amyotha Hluttaw Women and Children Committee. The deputy speaker decided to take measures as per the

decision of the committee after redrawing the report in cooperation with the MPs who participated in discussion.

The Hluttaw also decided to discuss the proposal of U Ohn Tin of Rakhine State Constituency (10) calling for a single question for matriculation exam for the whole country.

NLM

Explosive device goes off in Syrian capital

DAMASCUS, 24 Oct— An explosive device went off Monday evening in the Rukin Addien District of the Syrian capital Damascus, witnesses said.

The explosion took place in Burnieh Street in Rukin Addien, witnesses told *Xinhua*, giving no further details.

Meanwhile, the pro-government Sham FM radio said the blast occurred near the headquarters of a radio station in the area, adding

that it has caused material damage only.

Rukin Addien area witnessed last week a wide-scale house-to-house raids by the government troops, who were searching for wanted men and hidden weaponries.

Blasts across Syria have become increasingly common, especially in Damascus and northern Aleppo city.

On Sunday, two blasts rocked Damascus and

Aleppo, leaving a number of people dead or injured.

The first blast struck a police station in Bab Tuma district in Damascus, killing 13 people and injuring other 29, the state media said.

The second blast struck Aleppo when a suicide car bomb went off before a French hospital in the Zuhour Street, causing injuries and material damage, the state media said.

The recent blasts coincided with UN-Arab

League representative Lakhdar Brahimi's visit to Syria, where he is calling for a cease-fire during the upcoming Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, or Feast of Sacrifice.

At a press conference held on Sunday in Damascus after his meeting with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, Brahimi appealed to all conflicting parties that they observe the cease-fire in a bid to build a permanent pacification.—*Xinhua*



A tractor plows on the field at a farm in Mingshui county of northeast China's Heilongjiang province, 23 Oct, 2012. Local agricultural authorities recently implemented methods on the autumn ploughing to ensure the harvest of the next year.—*XINHUA*



Couples who have been married for 50 years walk on the red carpet during a golden and silver wedding anniversary to greet the Double Ninth Festival in the Helan County of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 23 Oct, 2012. The Double Ninth Festival, or Chongyang Festival, is a traditional Chinese holiday to pay respect to the seniors.—*XINHUA*

Philippines on red alert for tropical depression

Disaster

MANILA, 24 Oct— The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Tuesday that it is on red alert as the Philippines braces for the onslaught of tropical depression Ofel.

NDRRMC executive director Benito T Ramos said various regional and municipal disaster agencies particularly in central and southern Philippines have been directed to undertake precautionary measures.

Ramos said the Philip-

pine Coast Guard was also directed to warn small boats and fishing boats to not venture out to sea.

State-run Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) raised signal number 1 in the provinces of Leyte, Southern Leyte, Eastern Samar, and Western Samar in central Philippines.

Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Island, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, and Camigu-

in Island in southern Philippines are also under signal number 1.

PAGASA warned residents in these areas of possible flashfloods and landslides.

These areas are also expected to experience moderate to heavy rainfall.

Tropical depression Ofel is expected to make landfall between central and southern Philippines today and may exit the country by Friday or Saturday.

Xinhua

One in six in EU nations at risk of poverty

VIENNA, 24 Oct— One in six people in the European Union (EU) are at risk of poverty, the Executive Director of the Austrian Association for Policy Consulting and Development (OeGPP) said on Monday.

Andreas Hoferl made the comments during a presentation for a study titled "Poverty in the European Union," where he said in 2010 there were 80.7 million people in the EU region threatened by the problem.

"What is particularly unsettling is that it is an upward trend," he said, according to an APA report.

Countries worst-affected by the financial crisis are also those with the highest number of people at risk of poverty, such as Ireland and Spain.

Latvia was at highest risk of poverty with 21.3 percent, the Czech Republic lowest with 9 percent.

Countries with the highest risk of poverty in 2010 along with Latvia

were Romania, Bulgaria and Spain, with those most at risk being the unemployed, single parents, large families, immigrants, and older people.

Western European countries are also vulnerable to poverty risk, with 36 million people in the region at risk, and immigrants affected at double the rate of local citizens. Those least at risk are people with a university degree and full-time workers, the study showed.—*Xinhua*

Sri Lanka willing to work with China to boost development

Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 24 Oct.— Sri Lanka will continue to engage with China in key development sectors, particularly tourism, Deputy Speaker Chandima Weerakkody told a delegation of Chinese officials here on Monday.

Weerakkody made the remarks at a meeting with the delegation led by Zhao Qizheng, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, China's top political advisory body. During the meeting at the Sri Lankan parliament, the two sides reiterated their readiness to continue cooperation and outlined upcoming exchanges. Zhao invited Weerakkody to visit China's Shanghai with a delegation of engineers to study the development of the booming Chinese metropolis

for the growth of the southern Sri Lankan city of Galle.

Zhao also called on Sri Lankan authorities to increase awareness of the island country's tourist attractions by undertaking more publicity campaigns in China, noting that nearly a million tourists will visit Maldives this year but Sri Lanka, despite its closeness to the Maldives, still attracts less Chinese visitors.

"Sri Lanka also needs to let the Chinese people know the end of its civil war, the current peaceful atmosphere and the rapid development taking place here in Sri Lanka," said Zhao, calling for actions to train more Chinese speaking guides so that tourists from China will "find it easier to travel to Sri Lanka." MP Thilanga Sumathipala agreed that more steps need to be taken to increase the usage of

Chinese among tourism professionals, saying that a long-term plan must be put in place to attract English-speaking Chinese people.

"China is funding a second international airport in Sri Lanka, which will be put into operation soon and can be used to increase flights with China. At the moment we have about ten flights a week to India but the numbers to China are less," he said, adding that this could be one reason for the small figure of Chinese tourists.

"Trade between Sri Lanka and China can also be improved. As Sri Lanka looks to fast track its development, it needs investment from Chinese companies that can also bring their expertise and knowledge to us," said Sumathipala.

Xinhua

Three killed, 14 injured in explosion against prison van in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 24 Oct—At least three persons were killed and 14 others injured in a bomb blast that hit a van carrying prisoners outside a prison in Johannesburg on Monday, local media reported.

An explosive device was triggered on a vehicle outside the Johannesburg Central Prison, the South

African Press Association reported.

The vehicle was carrying about 36 prisoners as the explosion took place, which left three persons dead, four critically injured and ten others with light hurt, said the News24 on its website.

Police said it was caused by an escape plot

planned by the "dangerous criminals" and the uninjured prisoners had been taken back to prison.

The preliminary investigation by police showed that the explosive device was hidden in the back of the vehicle, but it was not clear as to who executed the plot.

Xinhua



A worker shows stuffed toys to be sold to Beijing market at a toy company in Tashan Township of Ganyu County, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 22 Oct, 2012. Toy companies in the county now have received increasing orders of toy products with the approaching of the Christmas shopping rush.—*XINHUA*

REGIONAL



Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev (L), who is an aide to President Vladimir Putin, and Japanese Foreign Minister Koichiro Gamba shake hands before their meeting in Tokyo on 23 Oct, 2012.—KYODO NEWS

Hong Kong commemorates World War Two martyrs

Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 24 Oct — Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government held an annual official ceremony on Tuesday in commemoration of those who died in the defense of Hong Kong in World War Two between 1941 and 1945.

Hong Kong's chief executive CY Leung attended the ceremony and laid a wreath at the City Hall Memorial Garden.

Senior government officials and representatives

from the Judiciary, the Legislative Council and the Executive Council were also present at the ceremony. They were joined by representatives of the central government organizations in Hong Kong, members of the concerned consular corps, religious leaders, community dignitaries, former members of the Hong Kong Independent Battalion of the Dongjiang Column, war veterans' groups, uniformed groups and student groups.—Xinhua

JAL airplane returns to airport after takeoff due to engine trouble

Aviation

TOKYO, 24 Oct—A Japan Airlines plane which headed for Matsuyama in southwestern Japan returned to Tokyo's Haneda airport shortly after takeoff Tuesday evening due to engine trouble, local press reported.

None of the 138 passengers and six crew members on flight 1471,

operated by JAL Express Co, was injured, but the Transport Ministry has decided that it was a serious incident that could have led to an accident as extensive damage was found inside the engine, an official from the ministry was quoted by Kyodo News as saying.

Xinhua



During a free clinic activity at the Tangu Community Health Centre in Shijiazhuang, capital of north China's Hebei Province, on 23 Oct, 2012. Free clinics from some 210 medical institutions in the city were provided to aged citizens on Tuesday, as a way to greet the Double Ninth Festival, or Chongyang Festival, which is a traditional Chinese holiday to pay respect to the seniors.—XINHUA

Frankfurt Book Fair attests to China's burgeoning cultural appeal

Culture

BEIJING/FRANKFURT, 24 Oct —Zhang Genrui, head of the Germany subsidiary of China's flagship global book trader, this year's Frankfurt Book Fair, the world's largest and most influential event of its kind, was a sort of role-change experience.

For the past 16 years in Frankfurt, Zhang had been courting local publishers, book dealers and the press to promote Chinese books. But this time around he and his colleagues were frequently wooed by a swarm of reporters, book traders and readers at the book fair, especially after Chinese writer Mo Yan won the Nobel Prize for Literature

on 11 October.

At the well-lit exhibition stand of China International Publishing Group (CIPG) in Hall 6 of Messe Frankfurt, the book fair venue, dozens of reporters from Germany, Sweden and Venezuela focused their questions on Mo Yan, but Zhang was instinctively trying to turn the interview into a business opportunity.

"Mr Mo is a very-known author in China and his novels always give a vivid account of those living at the bottom of the society," he said, while touting "Graded Chinese Reader—Selected, Abridged Chinese Contemporary Short Stories", a new book

published by Sinolingua Press, a CIPG subsidiary.

"This collection includes a short story by Mr. Mo that criticizes the traditional bias toward women," Zhang told the reporters, adding that "it is also a very good textbook for Chinese language learners."

"It would be unimaginable a decade ago," said Zhang, referring to the growing attention the Chinese exhibitors received and the more than 2,600 copyrights they managed to sell during the 10-14 October event, compared with 2,424 sold last year and 953 in 2000.

"Every year we have more Chinese exhibitors coming here and our total exhibition area has doubled from 320 square meters to 604 square meters since 2000," he said.

And in terms of print and decoration quality, China books are now as good as their Western peers. Since China Book Trading GMBH, the CIPG's Germany subsidiary run by Zhang, was launched in 1997, its circulation capital has grown from mere 60,000 German Marks (about 180,000 euro in today's value) to 1 million euro. Its total sales last year reached half a million euro.

As the coordinator for the Chinese delegation to the book fair, Dai Lan, director of exhibition at China Universal Press & Publication Co, Ltd (CUPP) took a broader view of China's participation at the world's largest annual book trade event.—Xinhua



Chefs prepare meals in Jiaotang Village, Wenchang City, south China's Hainan Province, on 23 Oct, 2012. A dinner was held here for local seniors to greet the Double Ninth Festival, or Chongyang Festival, which is a traditional Chinese holiday, with the tradition of climbing hills, viewing chrysanthemums and paying respect to the seniors.—XINHUA

Philippine police eye to cooperate with MILF in Mindanao

Philippine

MANILA, 24 Oct — The Philippine National Police (PNP) is looking forward to launching more aggressive operations against lawless elements in southern Philippine inland of Mindanao after the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) had committed to support PNP against local criminals, a senior police officer said Tuesday.

PNP Chief Director General Nicanor Bartolome said the police appreciate the commitment, which was made by the former rebel group MILF under

the framework agreement with the Government of the Philippines (GPH), believing it's a magnanimous gesture of support to efforts by the PNP to crackdown on "lawless elements" in Mindanao.

"With this commitment by the MILF, the PNP can look forward to more aggressive police operations against lawless elements similar to the recent operations launched in Sultan Kudarat and Basilan that led to the capture of two sub-leaders of the Abu Sayyaf Group," he said.

Xinhua

Indonesia to set up sport school in Papua next year

JAKARTA, 24 Oct—Papua provincial administration plans to build a sport school next year in the province, in a bid to find and develop promising young athletes as early as possible, local official said on Tuesday.

Papua Education, Youth and Sports Agency chief James Modouw said that the school would be at levels equivalent to junior and senior high school.

"We will recruit talented teenagers from all over Papua as students," he said, adding that the administration plans to recruit 600 students.

Modouw quoted by the Jakarta Post as saying that the school's curriculum would comprise 60 percent of sports and 40 percent of regular classes.

Modouw added that the schedule of the regular classes would be adjusted to the students' training sessions.

"For example, they train from 6 am to 9 am, followed by regular classes until 3 pm. After finishing the classes, maybe they will go straight to another training session until 6 pm," he said. After undergoing trainings in the school, accomplished students will be further trained by the National Sports Committee (KONI), according to Modouw.

Xinhua

5.9-magnitude quake hits Izu Islands, Japan region

HONG KONG, 24 Oct — An earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale jolted Izu Islands, Japan region at 08:53:38 GMT on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 438.50 km, was initially determined to be at 29.0570 degrees north latitude and 139.2611 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua



People attend a memorial ceremony for Mazu, the goddess of the sea, during a tourism festival in the Meizhou Island in Putian City, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 23 Oct, 2012. The tourism festival themed on Mazu culture, which kicked off here on Tuesday, attracted tens of thousands of worshippers from the Chinese mainland and Taipei.—XINHUA

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFICATION

Date of issue : 25th October, 2012
Name of Project : **Private Sector Participation in the Development of Yangon International Airport**

1. The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA), Ministry of Transport, intends to develop Yangon International Airport as business center in Yangon Region with private sector participation. Accordingly, DCA will accept submissions for prequalification for participation in the said development from interested local firms and foreign firms in joint venture or consortium under the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law.

2. The DCA intends to prequalify firms for private sector participation in the Development/Expansion/Operation/Management and Maintenance of following service/work sectors of Yangon International Airport.

- Development of an airport master plan
- Expansion of the Terminal Buildings (International and Domestic). Apron and Car parking.
- International/Domestic Terminal Operations
- Airside and Landside Operations (Excluding the Air Navigation Services)
- Other airport related services
- Maintenance Services for pavement (Runway/Taxiway/Apron including the shoulders) drainage system, visual aids, electrical systems and airfield lighting system
- Upgrading the airport and related facilities according to the master plan
- Upgrading the airport security system

3. The DCA will implement the above development arrangements with a form of public-private partnership with private sector financing.

4. The successful prequalified firms may expect that the invitation for bids will be made in January 2013.

5. The prequalification documents may be obtained by interested firms upon submission of evidence of payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$ 1000 to DCA. The method of payment shall be to Current Account No. MD 010019, Myanmar Economic Bank by means of bank transfer through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.

6. To obtain further information, interested firms should contact the address indicated below:

Deputy Director General,
Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
Telephone : 951 533001, 951 533013 Fax: 951 533016
Email : dydg@dca.gov.mm, ddassd@dca.gov.mm

7. Place and deadline for submission of Prequalification documents;
Dead line for application submission:- 5th December, 2012 at 1500 Hrs Myanmar Standard Time.

Director General,
Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
Telephone : 951 533015 Fax: 951 533016
Email : dgdca@dca.gov.mm



Young students of kungfu school perform during a welcoming ceremony of the 9th Zhengzhou International Shaolin Wushu Festival in Dengfeng City, central China's Henan Province on 22 Oct, 2012. A series of performance as well as Wushu contest and seminar will be held during the festival from 21 to 25 Oct. XINHUA

Israeli airstrike targets Hamas in Gaza

BEIJING, 24 Oct—Israeli officials say an airstrike, targeting a Hamas squad preparing to launch rockets into the Jewish state, has killed two gunmen in northern Gaza.

The air force operation followed an earlier attack along the border, in which an

Israeli officer was wounded. The violence comes on a day Gaza received its first foreign head of state, the Emir of Qatar.

Israeli leaders had vowed retaliation for the border attack. But military actions were put on hold until after Qatari Emir's visit. Qatar has

low-level diplomatic ties with Israel and hosts a major US naval base.

Hamas says two of its gunmen were killed and another wounded in the air strike. It did not comment on Israel's allegation that they had prepared rocket launches.—Xinhua

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (665)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (665) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Eight killed as tanker overturns in Henan

ZHENGZHOU, 24 Oct—Eight people were killed and six others were injured when a tanker overturned and crushed a roadside work shed where they were sleeping early on Wednesday in central China's Henan Province, local government said.

The cement-carrying tanker overturned at Hangkonggang District in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan, at around 2:30 am, according to a statement from the Zhengzhou municipal government. The cause of the accident is under investigation.—Xinhua

Explosions, fire at arms factory in Sudan's capital

KHARTOUM, 24 Oct—A huge fire broke out after several explosions late on Tuesday at an arms factory in Sudan's capital of Khartoum, witnesses said.

Soldiers blocked roads to the Yarmouk ammunition factory where more blasts erupted as firefighters tried to contain the blaze, said a Reuters reporter at the scene in southern Khartoum. After two hours the fire had been almost extinguished.

The governor of Khartoum state, Abdelrahman al-Khidir, said some people had been taken to hospitals after inhaling smoke but otherwise there were no casualties, according to the state news agency SUNA.

The governor said the cause of the fire and the explosions was unclear, but that nothing pointed to "external" reasons. He told

state television the explosion had probably occurred in a storage hall of the huge complex.

In May, Sudan's government said one person was killed when a carexploded in the eastern City of Port Sudan. It said the explosion resembled a blast last year that it had blamed on an Israeli

missile strike.

Israel declined to comment on the incident in May, or the 2011 blast, which killed two people. It neither admitted nor denied involvement in a similar incident in eastern Sudan in 2009.

Reuters



Onlookers gather to look at a huge fire that engulfed the Yarmouk ammunition factory in Khartoum on 24 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Teen brothers charged with death of 12-year-old New Jersey girl

CLAYTON, 24 Oct—Two teenage brothers face murder charges for strangling a 12-year-old New Jersey girl after luring her to their house with an offer of parts for her bicycle, authorities said on Tuesday, a day after her body was found in a recycling bin near her home.

The girl, Autumn Pasquale, was last seen alive on Saturday riding her bicycle in Clayton, the town of 8,100 where she lived. Her body was discovered on Monday in a curbside bin about four blocks from her home, a spokesman for Gloucester County Prosecutor Sean F. Dalton said.

The teens, ages 17 and 15, whose names were not publicly disclosed, lived on the same block where the body was found, according to the spokesman, Bernie Weisenfeld. The boys were charged with first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder, disposing of a body, tampering with evidence and theft. It has not yet been decided whether they will be charged as adults, according to Weisenfeld.

The county medical examiner determined that 12-year-old Pasquale died of blunt force trauma consistent with strangulation, and there was no sign of sexual assault, according to the prosecutor's office.—Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

Working with Daniel Craig was challenging: Sam Mendes

LONDON, 24 Oct—"Skyfall" director Sam Mendes says working with Daniel Craig, who plays James Bond in the upcoming film, was challenging.

The 47-year-old filmmaker said that Craig knew the role of James Bond inside out and was constantly giving his input into scenes, reported Showbizspy.

"It was pretty feisty. He puts a 100 per cent of himself into it. He doesn't leave anything at home. And he has opinions about everything, which is as it should be," Mendes said.

"But it's very odd because I've never directed an actor in a role which, in a sense, he knows better than I do. Here it's like, 'Well he's played Bond already, so I'm the newcomer'," he added.

Mendes said that his approach to directing the new 007 film was unorthodox and he wanted a small set so he could work closely with his actors.

"Daniel walked on set on the first day, at Pinewood, and went, 'This doesn't feel like a Bond movie.' It was much smaller.

I kept it small. I worked hard to keep it on a human scale, for the actors," he said.—PTI



Sam Mendes with Judi Dench and Daniel Craig.

Russell Crowe thanks fans for their support after his separation with wife

NEW DELHI, 24 Oct—Russell Crowe has thanked fans for their support after his marriage ended.

The Gladiator actor and his wife Danielle Spencer - who have sons Charles, eight, and Tennyson, six, together - revealed their separation earlier this month but until now Russell has not commented on the situation.



Gladiator actor and his wife Danielle Spencer

After a fan named Sarah tweeted him on Sunday to commiserate, writing "Heard about your separation today. I said a prayer for you and your family", Russell responded by tweeting "Hey Sarah, that was very kind of you. Thank you for your thoughts."

PTI

Victoria Beckham wants to move back to UK to be with family

LOS ANGELES, 24 Oct—Victoria Beckham is reportedly keen to move back to the UK so she can spend more time with her family.

The fashion designer currently resides in Los Angeles with soccer star husband David and their four children - Brooklyn, 13, Romeo, 10, Cruz, seven, and 15-month-old Harper - but the couple are said to be considering moving back home as they want to be closer to their parents and siblings.

A source said: "Victoria feels that her kids are missing out by not having her and David's extended families around them, especially as they get older, and would love for them to be able to spend more time together."

The couple are already said to have been looking at schools for the children as well as searching for homes that are close to London but have lots of privacy.

The source added to Britain's Hello! magazine: "Proximity to great schools is the number one priority. They have already made provisional enquiries at the top London academies, such as Haberdashers' Aske's. They still own Beckingham Palace in Hertfordshire, but may well opt for something a bit closer to London, given that Victoria will have to commute most days.

"Privacy is their other big concern. They are pretty much left alone in LA, and wouldn't want their family to move back if they were going to be harassed 24/7, so the property search will focus on secluded homes with excellent security."

PTI



Victoria Beckham

George Clooney helps aspiring actor with cerebral palsy

NEW DELHI, 24 Oct—George also helped Cody to meet his celebrity crush when the young man revealed he thought the former Baywatch babe was "hot".

George Clooney was attending the 26th Anniversary Carousel Of Hope Ball in Beverly Hills on Saturday when he met Cody La Scala, 25, who suffers from the motor condition and offered to help the aspiring actor in any way he can after Cody confessed to being an admirer of his work. A source told RadarOnline: "George was so touched. It was so cute. He hugged Cody and introduced him to Stacy[Keibler]. They chatted for a bit and George encouraged him to follow his dream, took down his number and promised to make some calls!"

George also helped Cody to meet his celebrity crush when the young man revealed he thought the former Baywatch babe was "hot".



George also helped Cody to meet his celebrity crush when the young man revealed he thought the former Baywatch babe was "hot".

The Hollywood hunk called her over where Carmen gave Cody a kiss on the cheek and enjoyed a chat with him."

Earlier in the night, KISS bass player admitted Gene Simmons admitted to a "boy crush" on George.

He said: "What do you girls say when you like another girl, but you're straight?"—PTI

Bond role was Javier Bardem's childhood dream

LONDON, 24 Oct—Oscar-winner Javier Bardem says he never believed he would star in a James Bond.

The 43-year-old portrays the role of Raoul Silva in the latest instalment "Skyfall", and he said that it was his childhood dream to star in the British spy series, reported Sun online.

"I'm a huge fan of the James Bond saga, so I was always very open to the idea. When I was little I watched Mr Connery doing James Bond with my father. Who in the world would think I'd be in

one of those movies?" he said.

Bardem, who has previously won an Oscar for his role in "No Country for Old Men", was even allowed to have an influence on the character as director Sam Mendes was so keen to have him play the part.

"The script was everything you could expect in James Bond films, and in addition it was a powerful and complex story. Sam had changed the whole dynamic of the baddie role, so Silva is not just a villain in the usual and obvious way," he added.—PTI



Javier Bardem

Holder Kvitova shocked, Williams, Sharapova win



Maria Sharapova

ANKARA, 24 Oct — Holder Petra Kvitova was stunned at the WTA Championships on Tuesday with a defeat that reduced her to tears while Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova began their campaigns in top form at the end-of-season competition.

Sixth seed Kvitova was toppled 6-3 6-2 by Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska in a contest that saw the Czech commit a whopping 41 unforced errors to only five from her opponent in the round robin competition featuring the world's top eight women.

Wimbledon and US

Open champion Williams eased to a 6-4 6-1 victory against Germany's Angelique Kerber, while French Open champion Sharapova beat Italy's Sara Errani 6-3 6-2.

Kvitova, so impressive winning the 2011 title, had trouble keeping the ball in court off the ground while fourth-seeded Radwanska put on a smart performance, easily moving her opponent out of position.

It was the Czech's first loss in 25 matches on indoor hard courts dating back to October 2010.

Kvitova came into her news conference with tears in her eyes and admitted having

lost control of her emotions.

"It was a little bit different, but the nerves were there for sure," Kvitova told reporters. "I was nervous all the match. I felt my fingers weren't still moving and I didn't move on my legs. I'm disappointed in myself."

"I had a lot of errors and it wasn't good tennis from my side... If you are not playing like some matches before and now you have a player who's number four in the world, it's not easy to be relaxed."

Third seed Williams, who won her 15th grand slam at the US Open, did not



Petra Kvitova



Serena Williams

appear nervous at all despite playing for the first time since winning the title in New York on 10 Sept.

The American pulled out of this month's tournament in China with stomach flu but said she was healthy now and proved it against fifth-seeded Kerber as she sent down her booming big serves and took control of the action from the ground. "I felt like I was ready to play," Williams said. "I felt like I practised too much, and if I hit another practice ball I'm going to go nuts. So I just really wanted a match.—Reuters

Goal-line technology passes another hurdle

ZURICH, 24 Oct— Goal-line technology providers GoalRef and Hawk-Eye have been authorized to install their systems worldwide after signing license agreements with FIFA, soccer's world governing body said on Tuesday.

The announcement came a year after FIFA began an exhaustive search for systems which could reliably detect whether or not a ball had

crossed a goal-line, said FIFA in a statement.

"This milestone in the goal-line technology process, which began in 2011, means that the two companies now have official authorization to install their respective goal-line technology systems worldwide."

Football's rule-making body, the International Football Association Board (IFAB), approved the use of the



Goal-line technology providers GoalRef and Hawk-Eye

crossed a goal-line. "Between October 2011 and June 2012, both companies passed a series of extensive laboratory and field tests, tests in simulated match situations, as well as tests

technology in July following a series of incidents in which referees failed to see that the ball had crossed the goal-line.

Reuters

Shakhtar beat Chelsea, Barca and United recover

LONDON, 24 Oct— Shakhtar Donetsk led the way for the Champions League underdogs as they beat holders Chelsea 2-1 while former European champions Barcelona and Manchester United came from behind to maintain perfect starts on Tuesday.

Danish debutants FC Nordsjaelland were within nine minutes of a memorable win over Juventus before having to settle for a 1-1 draw while last season's beaten finalists Bayern Munich bounced back from a shock defeat by BATE Borisov on Matchday Two to beat Lille 1-0 in France.

A year to the day since Chelsea captain John Terry racially insulted Anton Ferdinand of Queens Park Rangers, for which he is now serving a four-match domestic ban, he is eligible to play in Europe but could not stop Shakhtar scoring after three minutes. He failed to clear a pass to Alex Teixeira who took advantage of poor defending to angle a shot past Chelsea's Petr Cech who then made several fine saves to keep the score down.

Fernandinho doubled the home side's lead after halftime before Oscar became the third Brazilian to score in the match with a late consolation for the

well-beaten visitors.

"We are not afraid of playing against teams like Chelsea," said Shakhtar's Romanian coach Mircea Lucescu. "I think we deserved this victory - we created many more opportunities and the score could have been 4-1."

"Cech had an extraordinary game tonight. Maybe Chelsea started a bit too relaxed."

Roberto Di Matteo, whose Chelsea side lost their first Champions League game since he became manager in March, said: "Shakhtar have a good track record at home, particularly against the English teams."

"It's very difficult when you concede a fast goal. It's a shame we got back into the game a bit late. I believed we could score a goal at least but they punished us after we lost the ball in midfield. We have to do better as a team in those situations." The result left the Ukrainian side at the top of Group E with seven points, three more than Chelsea. Juventus have three and Nordsjaelland one.

Barca lead Group G with nine points from three wins, ahead of Celtic on four while Spartak Moscow have moved on to three points after their first win of the campaign, 2-1 at home to Benfica thanks to Jardel's own goal.



Braga's coach Jose Peseiro (R) watches Manchester United's Javier Hernandez (C) challenge Custodio during their Champions League Group H soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, on 23 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

UNITED FIGHT BACK

Manchester United avoided an upset at Old Trafford, coming from behind to beat Braga 3-2 after being 2-0 down inside the first 20 minutes as Alan found the key to unlocking United's defence with two crisp finishes.

United fought back with two headers from Javier Hernandez either side of a Jonny Evans goal which he scrambled in with his left foot after missing his kick with his right one.

United manager Alex Ferguson told ITV that conceding early goals was a fault they needed to correct.

"It has been the story of our season at home, starting

badly and losing goals," he said. "We have had to rescue games and it is the front players doing that. We played some terrific football tonight, but it is a concern losing the goals."

It was United's third successive win and they top Group H with nine points, followed by CFR Cluj on four after they drew 1-1 at Galatasaray. Braga have three and the Turkish side one. In a lively match in Istanbul, Cluj had Matias Aguirregaray sent off after 28 minutes and Felipe Melo missed a penalty for Galatasaray seven minutes later. Dany Nounkeu put through his own net to give Cluj the

Soccer

lead after 19 minutes before Burak Yilmaz equalised for the home side 13 minutes from time. Valencia ended BATE Borisov's perfect start in Group F with Roberto Soldado's hat-trick securing

a 3-0 win in Belarus. With Bayern winning 1-0 at Lille with a Thomas Mueller penalty, Valencia, BATE and Bayern all have six points with Lille on none.

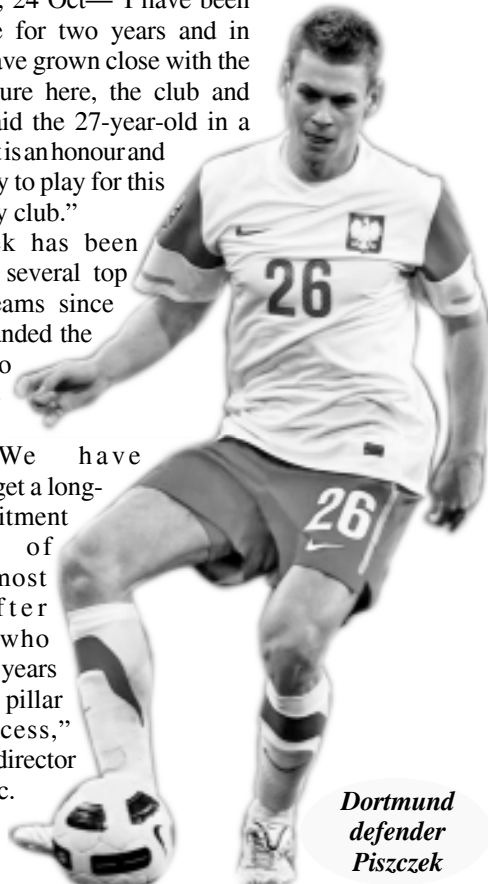
Reuters

Dortmund defender Piszczek extends deal to 2017

LONDON, 24 Oct—"I have been playing here for two years and in that time I have grown close with the football culture here, the club and the fans," said the 27-year-old in a statement. "It is an honour and responsibility to play for this extraordinary club."

Piszczek has been a target for several top European teams since Dortmund landed the first of two consecutive league titles in 2011. "We have managed to get a long-term commitment from one of Europe's most sought-after defenders who in the past years has been a pillar of our success," said sports director Michael Zorc.

Reuters



Dortmund defender Piszczek

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(25-10-12 09:30 am ~
26-10-12 09:30 am)

MST

- * News
- * Incian Technological & Economic Cooperation Day Dinner Reception
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Thilawa SEZ Investment Mission Seminar
- * News
- * Welcome to the Kaytumadi City
- * News
- * Guarrantee for Future of Myanmar Migrant Workers
- * News
- * Applied Myanmar Traditional Material Art (Part-2)

- * News 7:40 am
- * Review of Three Diseases Fund and Launch of Three Millennium Development Goals Fund 7:50 am
- * News 7:30 am
- * A Pretty Custom of Kandyawady Asia Vut A @ Rice Pounding Competition 8:00 am
- * News 4:10 pm
- * Towards A Society for All Ages 4:20 pm
- * Myanmar Movie "The Spouse And The Lover" 5:00 pm

MYANMAR TV

(25-10-2012, Thursday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Metta Bhavana By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 2. Dhamma Puja Song 7:50 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song 7:30 am
- 4. Morning News 8:00 am
- 5. Health Programme 4:10 pm
- 6. Musical Programme 4:20 pm
- 7. Cute Little Dancers 5:00 pm
- 8. Dance of National Races 5:20 pm
- 9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Year (Myanmar) 5:25 pm
- 10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit 5:30 pm
- 11. Science and Environment 5:40 pm
- 12. 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Dance) 6:20 pm
- 13. Myanmar Series 6:35 pm
- 14. Approaching Scicence Discover World 7:00 pm
- 15. TV Drama Series 8:00 pm
- 16. News
- 17. International News
- 18. Weather Report
- 19. 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Dramatic Arts)

Maintenance of buses inspected at Kinmun camp



Vehicle inspection team members check a up-hill vehicle.—NLM

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Mon State Vehicle Inspection Team constituted by Mon State Government discharges inspection duty to safety of pilgrims and prevention against traffic accident along the route from Kinmun camp to Yathedaung platform dur-ing Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda Pujaniya period in 2012-2013. The team comprising departmental officials, the secretary of bus-line control committee and the chairman of bus line association inspected engines, gears, steering, breaks and tyres of 143 buses from Kyaikhtiyoe bus line at Kinmun camp on 20 and 21 October. Moreover, the team supervised tests of driving licence, bus conductor licence and distributes traffic rules to the drivers and conductors.—MNA

China, Mongolia sign agreement on agricultural cooperation

ULAN BATOR, 24 Oct—Chinese and Mongolian delegates inked a deal on Tuesday to further promote bilateral collaboration in the agricultural sector. Under the agreement, signed after a meeting of the China-Mongolia Working Group on Agriculture Cooperation, the two neighbours will push forward their South-South cooperation under the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). China will continue to provide technical assistance to help enhance Mongolia's agricultural production and will help Mongolia provide training and set up its organic product standards and certification systems. Meanwhile, the two sides also agreed to boost cooperation in food safety and agricultural commodity trade negotiations. China and Mongolia have seen rapid development in agricultural cooperation in recent years. China has provided Mongolia with soft loans for the purchase of farm machinery, and has had experts and technicians working in Mongolia since 2010 to help promote Mongolia's national food security programme. Xinhua



Tourists pose for photos at Xiangshan, or the Fragrant Hills, in Beijing, capital of China, 23 Oct, 2012. Citizens in Beijing visit Xiangshan to greet the Double Ninth Festival, or Chongyang Festival, which is a traditional Chinese holiday, with the tradition of climbing hills, viewing chrysanthemums and paying respect to the seniors.—XINHUA

HK ranked 2nd in ease of doing business globally: WB

HONG KONG, 24 Oct—Hong Kong continues to provide one of the world's most business-friendly regulatory environments for local entrepreneurs, second only to Singapore, according to a new report released by the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation (IFC). "Hong Kong is the global leader in making it easy to deal with construction permits by having implemented exceptional coordination among service providers", said Christine Bowers, East Asia and the Pacific Investment Climate specialist for IFC, the World Bank Group member focused on private sector development. "With this reform and others in the past, Hong Kong has shown that top economies keep reforming even when they are performing

well. Hong Kong should pick up its reform efforts again", Christine Bowers said. The report finds that the Republic of Korea is among the top 20 in the global ranking on the ease of doing business and Mongolia is East Asia and Pacific's top improver in this year's Doing Business report. The report titled Doing Business 2013: Smarter Regulations for Small and Medium-Size Enterprises finds that 23 economies in East Asia and the Pacific have made their regulatory environment more business-friendly since 2005. Chinese mainland made the greatest progress in improving business regulations for local entrepreneurs during the time. The Doing Business 2013 report covers the period from June 2011 to June 2012 and uses data

for indicators that measure regulation affecting 10 key areas in the life cycle of local businesses. It found that Hong Kong did not implement a business-regulatory reform during those 12 months, but it is the world's easiest economy among them to deal with construction permits. According to the report, Mongolia in the past 12 months eliminated the minimum capital requirement for establishing a local limited liability company, guaranteed the right of borrowers to inspect their own credit data, and enacted new legislation to strengthen disclosure requirements for related-party transactions. These reforms made it one of the economies that improved the most between June 2011 and June 2012. Xinhua

Japan releases 1st simulations of nuclear radiation spreading

TOKYO, 24 Oct—Japan's nuclear regulatory authorities on Wednesday released for the first time projections for the spread of radiation from nationwide reactors in the event of a severe accident like the one at the Fukushima Daiichi complex last year. The amount of radiation released a week after an accident at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant in Niigata Prefecture could reach the level where evacuation is recommended for an area as far as 40 kilometers from the plant, the Nuclear Regulation Authority said. Kyodo News



People dance to celebrate the Navratri festival in Ahmedabad, capital of the west Indian state of Gujarat, 23 Oct, 2012. Navratri, which literally means nine nights, is a festival of worship, dance and music celebrated during a period of nine nights almost throughout India. XINHUA

Work hand in hand to reduce disaster risk, find ways for an effective mechanism in promoting regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction management

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct — In his speech on the occasion of 67th Anniversary of the United Nations Day held at Banquet Hall of Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, this morning, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham praised the United Nations which was established with the aim of enhancing world peace, prosperity and equality for its strenuous efforts in meeting the primary objective of prevention against world wars from occurring again and improving socioeconomic status of international community.

He said that the United Nations was an international organization which came into existence for future generation after World Wars with the aims to prevent similar losses and sufferings from occurring again and to value human beings, promote peace, human development and human rights.

He continued that Myanmar, as a member of the United Nations, joined other member states in celebrating



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivering address at the 67th Anniversary of the United Nations Day.

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the 67th Anniversary of the United Nations Day.

Since joining the UN as its 58th member state on 19 April 1948, Myanmar had been actively participating in cooperating with the international organizations for the socioeconomic development of the country. Furthermore, Myanmar had been living together in peace with other member states as pledged, he added.

He said that this year marked a milestone for Myanmar at the UN as President U Thein Sein

attended the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York and delivered a speech highlighting the ongoing reforms in the areas of political, economic and social development in Myanmar and future steps forwards.

It was encouraging to note that UN Secretary-General had committed to a substantially expanded role of the UN in Myanmar, with promises ranging from assistance with peace building to conducting a nationwide census.

The Vice-President said that Myanmar had been able to bring about miracle in reform process within a short span of time. For about one and half years, the three main pillars—the legislative, the executive and the judiciary—together with the political, social and national races affairs had been undertaken in the democratic transition stage by stage that despite the prevalence of numerous challenges, they had achieved encouraging progress and significant

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19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct—Guitar, piano and Donmin contests brought down the curtains of 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition being held at Yezin Universities' Campus in Zeyathiri Township this evening.

Singing contests opened the final day this morning.

Among the spectators were Deputy Minister for

Defence Commodore Aung Thaw, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union U Myint Han and Member of Union Civil Services Board Dr Win Myint.

The prize presentation ceremony will be held on 26 October morning at Myanmar International Convention Centre and the dinner in the evening at the same venue.

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Ma Kyi Nu Pwint of Yangon Region taking part in higher education level women's piano contest.

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Vonn against men "great for sport": Alpine Canada



TORONTO, 24 Oct—If Lindsey Vonn is cleared to race the men's World Cup downhill at Lake Louise it would give the sport a huge boost, but the American should reconsider loftier plans to tackle Kitzbuehel, the head of Alpine Canada said on Tuesday.

A four-time overall World Cup champion, Vonn set the ski racing world abuzz earlier this month when she petitioned the International Ski Federation (FIS) to let her race in the men's season-opening downhill on November 24 in the Canadian Rockies.

"It would be great for the sport," Alpine Canada president Max Gartner told Reuters on Tuesday. "That is what the sport needs, stories that are bigger than the sport itself."

But before Vonn can have her name added to the start list there are several technical issues that must be resolved.

Vonn has stated she will only take part in the men's race if she is allowed to compete in the women's downhill season-opener the following weekend on what is essentially the same course.—Reuters

Good not great year, says Woods as major drought goes on



KUALALUMPUR, 24 Oct—Claiming three PGA Tour victories whilst battling to reconfigure your swing would amount to a great year for most golfers but for Tiger

Woods, his extended major drought means 2012 can only be classed as a 'good' season.

In a career defined by rewriting records, the 14-times major winner

collected the third of those titles at the AT&T National tournament at Congressional in July to overtake Jack Nicklaus in second place on the PGA Tour winners list with 74.

However, for the 36-year-old American regarded as one, if not the greatest golfer of all time, anything short of major wins to haul him closer to the prized record of Nicklaus' 18 results in a tinge of disappointment for the perfectionist.

"I've always said winning one major championship turns a good year into a great year," Woods told reporters in

Malaysia on the eve of the co-sanctioned CIMB Classic.

"I've had years where I've won five times on Tour. Yeah, it's a really good year, no doubt, but winning a major championship just makes it a great year.

"The majors are such a different animal and different breed and we place so much emphasis on the them."

His last major victory was a remarkable 2008 U.S. Open triumph at Torrey Pines, where Woods hobbled around on a failing knee to defeat compatriot Rocco Mediate in an 18-hole Monday playoff.

Reuters

Senior Chinese leader praises publicity work



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Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev (L), who is an aide to President Vladimir Putin, and Japanese Foreign Minister Koichiro Gamba shake hands before their meeting in Tokyo on 23 Oct, 2012.



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