

Farmers from Kayin State observe hybrid Palethwe paddy plantations

Farmers observe production of Palethwe hybrid paddy, corn, groundnut, soya bean and seeds sorting machine at Koeywa Thabyegon Village of Pobbathiri Township. MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing today conducted members of Kayin State agriculture coordination committee and 130 observer farmers round Palethwe hybrid paddy plantations and high-yield sugarcane plantations in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The Union minister called the farmers to employ

good agricultural patterns and utilize knowledge gained for regional development.

The excursion group members observed pollination of 100-day hybrid Palethwe paddy plantation and 67-day hybrid paddy plantation.

At 109-acre qualify groundnut plantation near Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township, the excursion group members viewed

thriving plantations of 53-day groundnut plants. After that, they looked into thriving 550-acre Palethwe hybrid plantation irrigated by Ngalaik Dam of Pynmana Township, 288-acre Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation in Aungchantha Village of Zabuthiri Township, 5-acre soya bean plantation in Koeywa Thabyegon Village of Pobbathiri Township, vegetables and

fruit plantations in farmers educative farm, Palethwe hybrid paddy production process, maize, groundnut, soya bean and seed sorting machine.

The Union Minister presented maize and soya bean seeds to the farmers.

Later, the excursion group members visited 7-acre high yield sugarcane plantation in Thabyebin Village of Zeyathiri Township.—MNA

Wolin's visit: Further demonstration of US commitment to partner with Myanmar

YANGON, 27 Oct—US Deputy Secretary of Treasury Neal S. Wolin's two-day visit to Myanmar "is a further demonstration of US commitment to partner with Myanmar as it walks down the path of reform," said a Press release of the US Embassy here on Friday at the end of Wolin's visit.

During his visit, Wolin held substantive and productive discussions with President U Thein Sein, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein, Finance Minister U Win Shein, Central Bank Governor U Than Nyein and opposition party leader and parliamentarian Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as well as advisers to the President.

Wolin discussed ways in which the United States can support continued economic reform in Myanmar, particularly through assistance to develop Myanmar's financial sector and improve public financial management, the statement said. Wolin urged the Myanmar Government to continue progress on improving transparency in the country's banking, enforcement and tax policy and administration.

Welcoming Myanmar's intention to reform and develop the country's financial sector, Wolin expressed wishes to assist in the process. He also encouraged the Myanmar Government to continue strengthening human rights and democracy.

Wolin's trip followed the US Administration's implementation of new legislation signed by President Obama that will provide the United States with flexibility to vote in support of worthwhile financial assistance programmes for the country that will be carried out by international financial institutions such as the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. The Press release also underlined that the September visit to the United States by U Thein Sein and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi represented a water shed



Neal S. Wolin

in Myanmar-US bilateral relationship.

Washington has eased sanctions on Myanmar step by step in response to political reforms in the country and in its latest move, President Obama took a next step in normalizing commercial relationship between the two countries by relaxing US restriction on import of Myanmar goods into the US market as well as financial restriction after he granted US citizens to do business in Myanmar.

MNA/Xinhua

Double Baghdad blasts kill 13 over Eid holiday

BAGHDAD, 27 Oct—Two blasts hit a Baghdad Shi'ite neighborhood and a bus full of Iranian pilgrims on Saturday, killing at least 13 people on the second day of the Islamic Eid al Adha religious festival.

Sunni Islamist insurgents and al Qaeda's Iraq wing often target Shi'ites in an attempt to stir up the kind of sectarian tensions that

dragged the country close to civil war in 2006-2007 though bombings and attacks have eased.

In one attack on Saturday, a roadside bomb planted near an open-air market killed seven people, including three children at a playground.

Another blast killed six people when it hit a bus carrying Iranian pilgrims

to a Baghdad shrine, police and hospital officials said. "We heard an explosion, we rushed out, I saw children running, some with wounds and crying. We evacuated some of the injured people. Mothers were running to the place to find their children," Abu Ahmed, one witness said.

Police said blast on the Iranian pilgrims came from a bomb that had been attached to their bus. It exploded around 300 meters from a police checkpoint, sending the bus out of control before it flipped over on its side.

Insurgents have carried out at least one major attack a month since the last U.S. troops left in December. Iraqi officials worry Syria's crisis is bolstering Iraqi insurgents as Islamist fighters cross into

the neighboring country.

The monthly death toll from attacks in Iraq doubled in September to 365, the highest number of casualties in two years, including a series of bombings targeting Shi'ite neighborhoods that killed more than 100 people.

Security officials had said they believe insurgents would try to carry out a large attack during the religious holiday, which started on Friday.

Reuters



Teak & EU Market Seminar held

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct — Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs' Association organized Teak & EU Market Seminar at International Business Centre on Pyay Road in Yangon this morning as a preparation to

understand the timber certification while developing timber exports to EU countries in the wake of the relaxation of EU sanctions against Myanmar.

The seminar was held as a platform for buyers, EU representatives, Myanmar

personnel and businessmen to hold a comprehensive discussion to be able to avoid market loss caused by the lack of timber certification.

With regard to the timber certification, six experts from EU countries gave talks at the seminar.

MNA

Authorities vow to probe into Rakhine incident and take legal actions against instigators

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—Lt-Gen Hla Min of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, and Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay, together with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko Naing and departmental heads, and resident representatives of such UN agencies as WFP, UNOCHA, UNHCR led by UN Resident Representative Mr Ashok Nigam yesterday went to Myebon via Sittway to investigate the real condition of ongoing incident in Rakhine State.

In meeting with Sittway District Deputy Commissioner U Lin Ko Ko and responsible persons at Myebon Township General Administration Department, Lt-Gen Hla Min regarding the incident promised to protect lives and property of the public, calling for peace and stability and regulatory compliance without hatred against each other and avoidance of illegal actions. He vowed to probe into the case and take legal actions against the instigators.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay said in spite of Rakhine State being rich in natural resources, instability has negative effect on economy, social stability, production and job opportunities in the state while leaving people with mental and physical trauma and damaging the environment. He called for stability and the rule of law within the state, essential for attraction of investment. He called for coordination



Lt-Gen Hla Min of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office and Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay and officials meet local people in Rakhine State.—MNA

in the interests of the region and the State rather than hatred, enmity and action of revenge. At a time when the government is embarking on economic reforms to invite foreign investments and create jobs for people, instability like the ongoing one has certain impact on efforts of the State, noted the Union minister, adding that the government would conduct immediate rescue works as the first phase and create jobs as the second phase. He called for public participation in seeking resolution for the case which he said would need some time.

UN Resident Representative Mr Ashok Nigam said the United Nations provides humanitarian assistance without discrimination against races. He urged local people to live together peacefully in line with

democratic practices and build together better future.

Lt-Gen Hla Min and the Union minister contributed K 0.1 million each and the Rakhine State chief minister foodstuffs, clothes and relief aids to victims.

They then inspected arson-caused damages, met displaced people and provided them with relief aids and consoled them.

Representatives of UN agencies put questions to victims and comforted national people at relief camp in Kanthahtwatwa Ward Basic Education Primary School.

They then went to Minbya to meet and provide relief aids to displaced people from Samale Village and Yaingthe Village of MraukU Township.—MNA



Formation of Scouts squads, all-round award winners discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—With regard to formation of Scout training supervisory 12:30 pm in War 6 in Yanbye Township.

The Union minister, Rakhine State chief minister and officials from state government, resident representatives from United Nations agencies rushed to those places and to inspect rehabilitation tasks and seek ways for rule of law, restoration of stability and prevention against further conflicts.—MNA

committee and training timetable, compilation of trainee manuals and formation of Scout squads, formation of Scout squads and all-round prize presentation at basic education schools was held at Pynnya Tanzaung hall, here, this morning.

The director-general in-charge of Department of Myanmar Education Research Bureau and officials explained formation of scout groups and awarding outstanding students.

MNA

Union Foreign Affairs Minister visits New Zealand, Australia

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—At the invitation of Mr Murray McCully, Foreign Minister of New Zealand and Mr Bob Carr, Foreign Minister of Australia, the Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin paid official visits to New Zealand and Australia from 20 to 26 October, 2012 and arrived back by air in the afternoon of 27 October.

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin held a bilateral meeting with New Zealand Foreign Minister Mr Murray McCully on 22 October in Kerikeri, Bay of Islands. During the meeting, they cordially discussed on matters relating to further strengthening of bilateral relations and cooperation, enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation in various areas including agricultural, mining, livestock, investment, trade and human resource development. They also exchanged views on regional and international issues. Then, the New Zealand Foreign Minister hosted a luncheon in honour of the Myanmar delegation.

projects in the areas of education, health and HRD.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister called on Professor Marie R Bashir, Governor of New South Wales at the Government House in Sydney.

In the morning of 25 October, The Union Minister met with Dr Michael Fullilove, Director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, an Australian Leading Think Tank in Australia in Sydney and exchanged views on bilateral relations between Myanmar and Australia as well as on the regional and international issues. Then, the Union Minister and delegation attended a luncheon hosted by Ms Jenny McGregor, Chief Executive Office of the Asialink Think Tank.

The bilateral meeting between Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Bob Carr was held at 6 pm at the International Hotel in Sydney. During the meeting, the Union Minister expressed Myanmar's appreciation to Australia for increasing ODA to Myanmar, lifting of sanctions and providing HRD training. The two ministers also had a friendly and cordial discussion on mutually beneficial cooperation in various economic sectors.

Mr Bob Carr reiterated Australia's continued support to the ongoing reform process in Myanmar and informed Australia's commitment to increase ODA, humanitarian and HRD assistance including allocation of more scholarships. Australia will also encourage Australian business enterprises to invest in Myanmar.

During the visit, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin also visited Myanmar Embassy in Canberra and gave necessary guidance to the staff and families of the Embassy on 23 October.

The visit of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs to New Zealand was the first Myanmar Foreign Minister's visit since establishment of foreign relations in 1958. Similarly, the visit to Australia was also the first Myanmar Foreign Minister's visit since 1984.—MNA

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin meets New Zealand Foreign Minister Mr Murray McCully in Sydney.—MNA

In New Zealand, the Union Minister also visited Fonterra Cooperative Group Limited dairy farm in Kerikeri, a popular tourism destination in the northern part of New Zealand.

On 24 October, the Union Minister met with Mr Peter Baxter, Director-General of Aus AID at Hyatt Hotel in Canberra, Australia and discussed about the on-going projects and new

Destructive acts committed in Thandwe, Kyaukpyu, Pauktaw, Yanbye townships of Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—The State is implementing political and economical reforms to build a new democratic state and is giving educative works to the citizens to be able to abide by the democratic practice.

Due to mob attacks which undermined stability and rule of law started in May in Rakhine State, 119 houses and one building were burnt down in Thandwe, Kyaukpyu, Pauktaw and Yanbye townships of Rakhine State yesterday.

There was no casualty.

One villager house's wall was damaged due to mob attacks and other villager's boat was set ablaze at 1:50 am in Jeiktaw Village of Thandwe Township.

Similarly, three houses fell under arson attack at 7:30 am in Paikseik ward in Kyaukpyu Township. Local people of Minthapha Village in Pauktaw Township burnt 74 houses and one building themselves at 8:30 am.

Likewise, 42 houses were set ablaze by the mob at

WORLD

Pakistani leaders call for unity to defeat terrorism, extremism

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 27 Oct—Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, and Prime Minister, Raja Pervez Ashraf, Friday used their messages on the eve of Muslim festival of “Eid” to urge the nation to unite against the challenges of terrorism, extremism, sectarianism and target killings, local media reported.

“Eid-ul-Adha” will be celebrated in Pakistan on Saturday under tight security and the government has

decided to suspend mobile phone service in 13 sensitive areas over threats.

The President said the country today is facing the challenges of terrorism, extremism, sectarianism and target killings and there is a need to inculcate unity, brotherhood, will for sacrifice, religious tolerance, and high qualities to face these challenges.

“We should remember on this auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, the sacrifices of the people rendered in the war against terrorism to defend the

country,” said the President in his message.

He called upon the nation to unite for the progress and prosperity of the country by adopting the true spirit of sacrifice, brotherhood, religious tolerance and renouncing the hatred and prejudice.

Prime Minister Ashraf in his message said the best way to combat the challenges posed to the nation by extremism, sectarianism and terrorism is that the masses should follow the teaching of Islam.

“We should promote

the values of compassion, unity and brotherhood among ourselves and dedicate all our energies to the prosperity and well-being of the country,” he said.

The Prime Minister said what the Eid day demands of the masses is that they adopt sacrifice, benevolence and brotherhood as their national character and help establish such a tolerant and harmonious society where its members are able to perform their duties in peace and tranquility.

Xinhua



Spanish King Juan Carlos I (L) shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at Hyderabad house before a meeting in New Delhi, India, on 26 Oct 2012. The Spanish king is on an official visit to India.—XINHUA

Shot Pakistani girl recovering fast in UK



Malala Yousufzai is seen with her father Ziauddin and her two younger brothers Khushal Khan and Atal Khan (R), as she recuperates at the The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, in this photograph taken on 25 Oct 2012 and released on 26 Oct 2012.

REUTERS

LONDON, 27 Oct—The father of a Pakistani girl shot in the head by the Taliban for advocating girls’ education said on Friday she would “rise again” to pursue her dreams after hospital treatment.

Malala Yousufzai, 15, was flown from Pakistan to Britain for specialist treatment after the 9 October attack, which drew widespread international condemnation. The father Ziauddin Yousufzai and other family members arrived in Britain on Thursday to help her recovery.

“They wanted to kill her. But she fell temporarily. She will rise again. She will stand again,” he told reporters, his voice breaking with emotion.

Malala has become a powerful symbol of resistance to the Taliban’s efforts to deny women education. Public fury in Pakistan over her shooting has put pressure on the military to mount an offensive against the radical Islamist group.

“When she fell, Pakistan stood ... this is a turning point,” her father said. “(In) Pakistan for the first time all political parties, the government, the children, the elders, they were crying and praying to God.”

Reuters

The Taliban have said they attacked her because she spoke out against the group and praised US President Barack Obama.

A cheerful schoolgirl who wants to become a politician, Malala Yousufzai began speaking out against the Pakistani Taliban when she was 11, around the time when the government had effectively ceded control of the Swat Valley to the militants.

She has been in critical condition since gunmen shot her in the head and neck as she left school in Swat, northwest of Islamabad. She could be at risk of further attack if she went back to Pakistan, where Taliban insurgents have issued more death threats against her and her father since she was shot.

“It’s a miracle for us,” her father said. “She was in a very bad condition ... She is improving with encouraging speed.” British doctors say Malala has every chance of making a good recovery at the special hospital unit, expert in dealing with complex trauma cases. It has treated hundreds of soldiers wounded in Afghanistan.

In echoes of Obama, Romney seeks to adopt mantle of change

US

WASHINGTON, 27 Oct—Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney attempted to adopt the mantle of change on Friday in an economic speech in which he vowed to bring a fresh start to Washington to generate stronger job growth.

Romney’s address in the swing state of Iowa was an effort to take on the role President Barack Obama played in 2008, that of an outsider who would represent an abrupt change if he wins the tight 2012 presidential race. In his speech, Romney dismissed Obama as a shadow of his former self, one who wants to protect the status quo and has no plan to repair the weak US economy.

“This election is a choice between the status quo — going forward with the same policies of the last four years — or instead, choosing real change, change that offers promise, promise that the future will be better than the past,” he said.

Billed by his campaign

as a major speech, Romney’s address was a summing up of his economic argument aimed at voters who have yet to make up their minds, with the 6 November election only 11 days away.

US gross domestic product growth for the third quarter of this year was reported at 2 percent on Friday, a figure that both campaigns seized on to support their arguments.

The Obama camp said it was proof that economic growth is taking place, albeit slowly.

“While we have more work to do, today’s GDP growth report, showing the 13th straight quarter of growth, is more evidence that our economy continues to come back from the worst recession since the Great Depression under President Obama’s leadership,” the Obama campaign said.

Romney, on the other hand, said the report was discouraging.

“Slow economic growth

means slow job growth and declining take-home pay. This is what four years of President Obama’s policies have produced,” he said.

His speech lacked specifics on what exactly Romney would do to boost the economy other than his five priorities of boosting energy production and trade, improving education, cutting debt and deficits and building small businesses.

Instead, he focused on

the big picture, the challenges that await the next president, and stressed he would not replicate Obama’s 2009 \$787 billion job stimulus package.

“This is not the time to double down on the trickle-down government policies that have failed us. It is time for new, bold changes that measure up to the moment, that can bring America’s families the certainty that the future will be better than the past,” he said.—Reuters



US Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney gestures as he delivers a speech on the US economy while campaigning in Ames, Iowa on 26 Oct 2012.

REUTERS

Italy’s Berlusconi sentenced to four years in jail for tax fraud

Italy

MILAN, ITALY, 27 Oct—A Milan court on Friday sentenced Italy’s former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi to four years in jail for tax fraud with the purchase of broadcasting rights by his Mediaset television company.



File photo taken on 3 Aug 2011 shows Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi attend a session at the lower house of the parliament in Rome, Italy. A Milan court on Friday sentenced Italy’s former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi to four years in jail for tax fraud with the purchase of broadcasting rights by his Mediaset television company.—XINHUA

Berlusconi was also banned for three years from public office. Prosecutors in the Italian northern city had asked for him a jail sentence of three years and eight months. The 76-year-old former premier had been charged with tax

frauds together with other 11 defendants, including Mediaset’s president Fedele Confalonieri, who was acquitted, and American producer Frank Agrama, who was sentenced to three years in prison.

The Milan court also ordered damages provisionally set at 10 million euros (12.9 million US dollars) that Berlusconi and his co-defendants will have to pay to Italian tax authorities. The trial, started nearly six years ago, focused on broadcasting rights that Berlusconi’s holding company Fininvest bought via offshore companies from groups in the United States for 470 million euros (607 million US dollars) between 1994 and 1999. Berlusconi has now the right to appeal

the verdict two times, and will not have to serve any time in jail nor renounce public office until the definite sentence.

The verdict came two days after Berlusconi announced in a statement he will not run in elections scheduled for spring 2013 as the leader of his People of Freedom (PdL) centre-right party. “It is another evidence of judicial harassment against Silvio Berlusconi ... We are confident the appeal proceedings will give him reason, and we hope these judgments come quickly,” the leader in pectore of PdL, Angelino Alfano, said in commenting on the ruling.

Xinhua

New York man who sued Facebook faces

Technology

criminal charges

NEW YORK, 27 Oct — A New York man was arrested on Friday on charges he forged documents in a multibillion-dollar scheme to defraud Facebook Inc and its chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg, through a lawsuit claiming a huge ownership stake in the Internet company.

Paul Ceglia, 39, a one-time wood pellet salesman from Wellsville, New York, was charged with mail and wire fraud over what federal prosecutors and the US Postal Inspection Service said was fabricated evidence to support his claim to a large stake in Facebook through a 2003 deal with Zuckerberg.

Ceglia's accusations against Zuckerberg had marked a bizarre twist to Facebook's march toward its highly anticipated initial public offering in May. Facebook's origins were also the focus of a separate legal challenge by Zuckerberg's Harvard University classmates, the twins Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss, in a saga chronicled in the 2010 film, "The Social Network."

Ceglia sued the Silicon Valley company and its chief executive in 2010, claiming that a 2003 contract he signed with Zuckerberg entitled him to a stake in the social media network. Zuckerberg

had done programming work for Ceglia's company, StreetFax.com, while at Harvard University.

This past March, as part of that case, Facebook attorneys released emails sent by Zuckerberg to show Ceglia's claims were false. The attorneys cited work by forensic experts who found that Ceglia had typed text into a Microsoft Word document and declared it was the text of emails with Zuckerberg.

Ceglia sought "a quick pay day based on a blatant forgery," US Attorney Preet Bharara in Manhattan said in a statement announcing the criminal charges. "Dressing up a fraud as a lawsuit does not immunize you from prosecution."

A lawyer for Ceglia could not immediately be reached for comment. "Ceglia used the federal court system to perpetuate his fraud and will now be held accountable for his criminal scheme," Orin Snyder, a partner at law firm Gibson Dunn who is representing Facebook and Zuckerberg in the civil case, said in a statement. — Reuters



Facebook logo

Fossils of first feathered dinosaurs in Western Hemisphere found

Science

Hemisphere found

VANCOUVER, 27 Oct — Canadian researchers have found the first feathered dinosaur specimens in the Western Hemisphere, and suggested that the ornithomimids, as they are scientifically known, should have had feathers and wings.

The study, published on Friday in the prestigious journal *Science*, was led by paleontologists Darla Zelenitsky from the University of Calgary and Francois Therrien from the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology.

Zelenitsky said that despite the many ornithomimid skeletons known, these specimens are also the first to reveal that ornithomimids were covered in feathers, like several other groups of theropod dinosaurs.

The researchers found evidence of feathers preserved with a juvenile and two adult skeletons of Ornithomimus, a dinosaur that belongs to the group known as ornithomimids, suggesting that all ornithomimid dinosaurs would have had feathers.

Besides, the specimens, recovered from 75 million-year-old rocks in the badlands of the Canadian Province of Alberta, reveal an interesting pattern of change in feathery plumage

during the life of Ornithomimus. "This dinosaur was covered in down-like feathers throughout life, but only older individuals developed larger feathers on the arms, forming wing-like structures," said Zelenitsky. "This pattern differs from that seen in birds, where the wings generally develop very young, soon after hatching." This discovery of early wings in dinosaurs being too big to fly indicated the initial use of these structures was not for flight, according to the researchers. "The fact that wing-like forelimbs

developed in more mature individuals suggests they were used only later in life, perhaps associated with reproductive behaviors like display or egg brooding," said Therrien.

Previously, feathered dinosaur skeletons had been recovered almost exclusively from fine-grained rocks in China and Germany. The discovery of these ornithomimids in sandstone reveals great new potential for the recovery of feathered dinosaurs worldwide, according to the researchers. — Xinhua

Tech CEOs trade barbs, warm up for holiday tablet wars

Technology



Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer speaks at the launch event of Windows 8 operating system in New York, on 25 Oct 2012. — Reuters

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 Oct — The biggest names in consumer technology, stung by a string of disappointing quarterly results this month, are suiting up for what's shaping to be the fiercest holiday battle in years. Investors and consumers have already largely written off flaccid quarterly numbers from tech behemoths like Microsoft, Apple, Google and Amazon. What counts is the next 60 days, when the biggest names in technology do battle at a near-unprecedented scale and pace.

Just on Thursday,

Amazon compared its Kindle Fire with Apple's new iPad mini, point by point, in its earnings release, an unusual forum to name rivals. Apple CEO Tim Cook compared Microsoft's Surface tablet to an over-engineered car that can fly and float. And Microsoft went for the iPad, saying its Surface boasted twice its storage. All three tablets will vie for the shrinking consumer dollar these holidays. By tech standards, it's getting ugly.

"The tablet space is where the growth is. That's why they are all fighting over it. PC shipments are down

and some tablet buyers may never buy another PC," said Michael Allenson, strategic consulting director in the Technology and Telecom Research Group at Maritz Research. "Last holiday season, we saw a lot of buying of tablets in the \$200 to \$300 price range. This year, the iPad mini and Amazon's Kindle Fires are targeted as large gifts. They are trying to ride that wave and win as much as they can."

The impending clash is far from decided. Odds-on favorite Apple has lost some of its aura of invincibility, with Google's Android and Samsung making inroads into its reign in smartphones, Microsoft's quickening marketing blitz, and Amazon's Kindle nipping at its heels as the No. 2 tablet in the United States market. That competition has weighed on Apple's share price, which is at three-month lows after it reported a second straight quarter of disappointing results, sullyng its reputation for blowing away Wall Street estimates.

Reuters

Power supply key to solving poverty

Science

VIENNA, 27 Oct — Lack of power resources and the inability to overcome natural catastrophes are two of the main problems facing developing countries, discussions at a scientific research conference concluded on Thursday. Scientists attending the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) conference in Vienna said 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia currently have no access to electricity, according to an APA report.

Senior researcher at the IIASA Energy Programme

(ENE) Shonali Pachauri said sufficient electricity supplies would relieve affected governments financially and are a key to fighting poverty.

"In India a comprehensive energy supply until 2030 could save 600 to 700 million dollars per year," she said. She added that many households in India still use kerosene for lighting, which costs the government a billion dollars a year.

Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Sierra Leone Ogunlade Davidson said more higher-education institutes would be needed to promote regions affected by the problem

"The vicious cycle of lack of energy, lack of productivity, and poverty must be broken," he said. IIASA Programme on Risk, Policy and Vulnerability leader Joanne Linnerooth-Bayer said more money should be invested on disaster prevention, which could save up to three-quarters of the cost involved in an eventual disaster.

International aid following a disaster usually comes too late and is too little to cover the cost, usually covering only about 10 percent of funds required to address disaster sites, said the expert.

Xinhua

Zeng Houyi bells recreated to match sound of original design

BEIJING, 27 Oct — A team of Chinese scholars has recreated a set of Zeng Houyi bells with the sound matching that of the original designers' idea.

Sui Yu, secretary of the recreation project with the China Conservatory told *Xinhua* on Thursday that this has been done by making use of modern acoustic devices.

The sound of the bells unearthed in Suixian County in central China's Hubei Province in 1978,

did not match their designers' expectations because of defects in the craftsmanship at that time, Sui said.

The set of bronze bells, which date back to the Warring States (475-221 B.C.), is known as the gem of the Chinese art.

Zhao Talimu, head of the team and president of the conservatory, said the recreation drew on the inscriptions written on the bells and the results of decades of research by scholars. — Xinhua



Jerry Shen (4th L), the president and CEO of ASUSTeK Computer Inc, presents the new products of Asus which have built-in Windows 8 operating system during a press conference in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 24 Oct 2012. Asus will sell new products running on Microsoft's much-anticipated Windows 8 operating system from 26 Oct 2012. — XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Samsung posts \$7.4 billion profit, handsets mask weak chip

Business



South Korean technology powerhouse Samsung Electronics Co posted a fourth straight record quarterly profit.—REUTERS

SEOUL, 27 Oct — South Korean technology powerhouse Samsung Electronics Co posted a fourth straight record quarterly profit — of \$7.4 billion — with strong sales of its Galaxy range of phones masking sharply lower sales of memory chips. The record run, though, is likely to end in December, with profit growth slowing even more next year as TV markets stagnate and growth in high-end smartphones eases from the recent breakneck speed. Profit is expected to grow 16 percent next year, down from a

forecast 73 percent this year, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

“The biggest concern for Samsung is that its smartphone growth momentum will slow. It’ll be difficult to maintain such a high profit margin from handsets as the market gets crowded and competition will intensify,” said Nam Dae-jong, an analyst at Hana Daetoo Securities.

Reporting just hours after rival Apple Inc, Samsung said July-September operating profit almost doubled to 8.12

trillion won, in line with its earlier estimate. Net profit rose to 6.56 trillion won

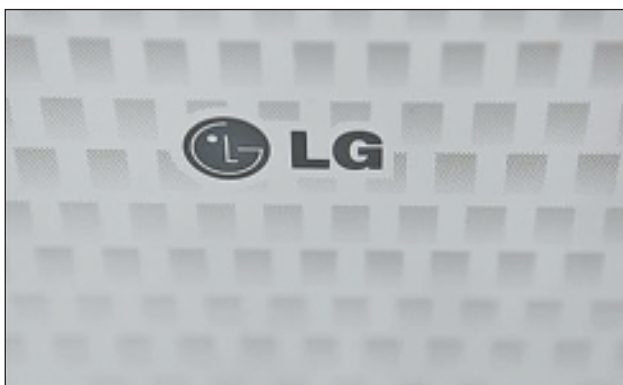
Samsung sold 56.3 million smartphones in the third quarter, according to research firm IDC, giving it a global market share of 31.3 percent — more than double that of Apple, which said it sold 26.9 million iPhones. Apple launched its latest iPhone 5 on 21 September.

Samsung said it will book patent-related provisions once a US court rules on its litigation with Apple. A US federal jury said in August that Samsung had copied key features of the iPhone, awarding Apple \$1.05 billion in damages. Apple has since asked for another \$707 million, and the California court is set to rule on that in early December. “The amount of provisioning will be fixed according to the US court ruling, and the costs will be set aside this quarter only if there’s a ruling within the current quarter,” said Robert Yi, head of Samsung’s investor relations.—Reuters

LG Display posts first profit in two years on phone, tablet panels

Business

SEOUL, 27 Oct — LG Display Co Ltd reported its first quarterly profit in two years on Friday as sales of its screens used in Apple Inc’s iPad and iPhone offset weak demand from TV manufacturers, the South Korean panel maker’s biggest revenue source. LG Display, which vies with Samsung Electronics Co Ltd’s panel unit for the top position in liquid crystal display (LCD) flat screens globally, reported 253 billion won (\$230 million) in operating profit for its July-September third quarter.



LG Display Co Ltd reported its first quarterly profit in two years on Friday as sales of its screens used in Apple Inc’s iPad and iPhone offset weak demand from TV manufacturers, the South Korean panel maker’s biggest revenue source.—REUTERS

That was a tad below an average forecast for a 265 billion won profit in a poll of 13 analysts by Thomson Reuters. The profit, LG’s first after seven straight quarters of losses, compared with a 492 billion won loss a

year earlier and a 26 billion won loss in the preceding three months. “We expect profitability to improve further in the fourth quarter, as a host of new mobile devices will launch and increase panel demand,” the firm said

in its earnings statement. LG said it expected LCD panel prices to remain stable in the current quarter, and its flat-screen shipments to rise by a high single digit percentage quarter-on-quarter.—Reuters

Meds a good “first step” for treating alcoholism

NEW YORK, 27 Oct — Two drugs commonly used to treat alcoholism may be appropriate for people in different stages of recovery, a new analysis confirms — likely because they work differently in the brain. The drugs, acamprosate (marketed as Campral) and naltrexone (ReVia), are both non-addictive themselves and don’t make users sick

when mixed with alcohol. So they’re a good first option for people struggling with alcohol dependence who are motivated to stop drinking but would like to avoid an inpatient programme, researchers said.

In a new analysis of 64 trials evaluating the two medications, researchers from California found acamprosate was more

effective at helping people who were not currently drinking stay sober. Naltrexone had the advantage when it came to cutting back on heavy drinking and helping recovering alcoholics avoid cravings. All of the trials randomly assigned participants to take one of the drugs or a placebo pill, with drinkers typically also attending therapy

Trans fats raise cholesterol, not blood sugar

Health

NEW YORK, 27 Oct — Although trans fats raise your levels of “bad” cholesterol, they don’t appear to have lasting impacts on your blood sugar, according to a new review of the medical evidence.

Researchers found that both blood sugar and insulin, the hormone that keeps blood sugar levels in check, were similar regardless of how much trans fat people ate. The link between trans fats and high cholesterol levels is widely accepted, but there have been conflicting results on the effect on blood sugar control, which is involved in diabetes.

Trans fats, technically known as trans fatty acids, are found in animal products and chemically processed vegetable oils.

In response to studies linking high consumption of the substances to an increased risk of heart disease, the US Food and Drug Administration has required food makers to disclose trans fats on nutrition labels, and some cities and

states have banned them in restaurants or schools.

To get a better sense of trans fats’ influence on blood sugar and insulin, Dr Christos Mantzoros of Harvard Medical School in Boston and colleagues pooled the results from seven experiments including 208 people.

In five of the studies, the participants’ blood sugar, insulin and cholesterol levels were monitored for several weeks under a diet of high trans fat consumption, and again for a few weeks when the trans fats were substituted for other fats, such as palm or soybean oil.

Two of the studies compared people who ate a diet that included trans fats to others who ate a diet without trans fats. There were no changes in blood sugar or insulin levels during

the times when people ate trans fats, compared to when they ate the other fats, Mantzoros’s group reported in *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*.

However, the researchers found that during the trans fat-eating weeks, “good,” or HDL, cholesterol went down and “bad,” or LDL, cholesterol went up.

“They saw what you would expect to see” regarding cholesterol, which shows that the studies were well done, said Mark Pereira, an expert in public health and nutrition at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Pereira, who was not involved in the study, said it isn’t definitive proof that trans fats can’t influence blood sugar levels.—Reuters

McDonald’s has no plans for US sales of packaged coffee



McDonald’s Corp, which next month will start selling packaged coffee in some of its restaurants in Canada, has no current plans to sell bagged coffee in the United States, a spokeswoman said on Friday.—REUTERS

Health

Conference urged to adapt acupuncture to Western world

SOFA, 27 Oct — Acupuncture should be adapted to the Western world, the fifth Bulgarian Acupuncture Congress was told on Friday.

Speaking on during the opening the conference, Francois Beyens, honorary president of the International Council of Medical Acupuncture added that the practice should also adapt to “the Western way of thinking.” Dr Emil Iliev, president of the Bulgarian Society of Traditional Chinese Medicine said the four-day event would discuss the place of acupuncture in the treatment of diseases of the 21st century.—Xinhua

Business

NEW YORK, 27 Oct — McDonald’s Corp (MCD.N), which next month will start selling packaged coffee in some of its restaurants in Canada, has no current plans to sell bagged coffee in the United States, a spokeswoman said on Friday.

News of the company’s plans to sell the McCafe-branded coffee in Canada came shortly after market

watchers noticed that McDonald’s had filed with the US Patent and Trademark Office to use its McCafe brand for “ground and whole bean coffee. That trademark filing launched speculation that the world’s biggest fast-food chain might offer bagged coffee in the United States.—Xinhua

China’s quality watchdog urges importers to recall Nongshim noodles

Health

BEIJING, 27 Oct — China’s consumer quality watchdog on Friday urged importers to recall certain kinds of instant noodles produced by Nongshim, the Republic of Korea (ROK)’s largest instant noodle maker, as some of the noodles have been found to contain carcinogens.

The recall would affect

six of the company’s products, including Neoguri, bowl-type Neoguri and Sang Sang Noodles, which were found to contain benzopyrene, a compound that can cause lung cancer, according to an online statement from the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ).—Xinhua

Reuters

Ancient bronze bell unearthed

MANDALAY, 27 Oct — An ancient bronze bell over 150 years old was uncovered while digging the ground to grow a tree in the compound of Maha Sandamuni Buddha Image at Tampawady ward of Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay on 25 October. Now the bell which is

3 feet and 2 inches in height, two feet in diameter and 6 feet and 4 inches in girth is being kept at Dhammavihaya Monastery. The place where the ancient bell was unearthed is to the south of Sandamuni Pagoda built by King Bodaw U Waing in 1441 ME.— *Kyemon*



Myathalun Pagoda's Buddha Pujaniya on 30 Oct



MAGWAY, 27 Oct — The 2576th Buddha Pujaniya ceremony of Myathalun Pagoda traditionally will be held in conjunction with alms-offering ceremony on 30 October. Wellwishers will offer alms, fruits and flowers to the Pagoda at 5 am on 30 October, and lights will be offered at 6 pm on that day. — *Kyemon*

Anesthetic device donated

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct — Chairperson of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Mon Mon Aung and executives donated an anesthetic device worth K 8.7 million for 1000-bed Hospital in Lewe Township to Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Khin San Myint of the hospital on 25 October. The medical superintendent presented the certificate of honour to them. — *MNA*

GSM SIM cards sold in installment

KYANGIN, 27 Oct — Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs is distributing GSM SIM cards to local people in Kyangin and Myanaung Townships of Ayeyawady Region under the installment plan through ward administrators.

by Kanbawza Bank. Out of K 9000 million, K 8000 million have been spent in the building project. It is learnt that works necessary for completion of construction of main structure are being carried out.

For timely completion of works meeting set standards, coordination between bridge engineers and Yangon City Development Committee will be made for construction of approach road. The length of the approach road will reach Nanattaw traffic lights. It is expected to finish the whole project at the end of April in 2013.— *Kyemon*

Users will be able to enjoy the one stop service by paying K 40000 for a SIM card worth K 200,000 for the first time. The remaining loan can be repaid in 16 monthly installments. If the price of the SIM card drops, they can repay the loan in accord with the low price. Up to 24 October, 550 SIM card have been distributed to local people, so far. — *Kyemon*

Kaytumati Toungoo turns 502 in November

TOUNGOO, 27 Oct — A ceremony to mark the 502th Anniversary of Founding Kaytumati Toungoo will

Over 6000 year-old fossils uncovered

YANGON, 27 Oct — A group of archaeologists comprising U Kyaw Khaing (lecturer), U Man Thit Nyein (tutor), U Ye Ko Ko Lat (assistant researcher) unearthed fossils over 6000 years old in the compound of a monastery near Bodhdawzinaw Cave on Thikhaung (Tigaung) Hill, west of Heho in Kalaw Township of Shan State (South).

They have uncovered fossilized tooth and bones of mammals, human skeletons and stone weapons, and thorough examination is being carried out to be recorded in history.

During the field trip of a group of faculty members of Geology Department of Taunggyi University led by Professor Dr Tin Thein in September 1997, they also unearthed human skeletons from Stone Age, fossilized animal bones and tooth and stone weapons.

Now is the time plans were laid down and research works are being conducted to trace the course of history of Myanmar. Personnel of the ministry concerned were sent to Kalaw, Hopong, Taunggyi and Nyaungshwe Townships in order to uncover the evidences related to Stone Age Culture.— *Kyemon*



Two car accidents occur within an hour on the same road

PYU, 27 Oct — Two crashes occurred within an hour on Yangon-Mandalay old road, south of Linyaungkhin village in Pyu Township of Toungoo District, Bago Region on 21 October.

A Fuso car carrying loads hit the body of Nissan six-wheeled truck at about 5 am near Linyaungkhin village on Yangon-Mandalay old road, and the Fuso plunged off the road

and went into a residence. Driver Kyaw Soe Lin was sued by Zeyawady Police Station for his reckless driving.

Likewise, a twelve-wheeled truck driving from south to north hit the back of a truck driving in the same direction at a place to the north of the first accident near the village at about 6 am. A reckless driver was sued by Zeyawady Police Station.— *Kyemon*

ceremony.

Festive-loving people who live in Kaytumati Toungoo and its environs are eager to take part in the festival to be held in November.

— *Kyemon*



Hledan Overpass set to complete in April, 2013

YANGON, 27 Oct — Managing Director of Shwe Taung Development Co., U Aung Zaw Naing said on 24 October that 60 per cent of the whole project had been completed as the company put all-out efforts in construction of an overpass at Hledan junction in accord with the present time soon after the stake-driven ceremony was held.

is designed by T.Y.Lin International Pte., Ltd, Singapore. They involve in infrastructure construction and drawing the design of the overpass based on American technology. A traffic engineering company in England provides traffic solutions. The reinforced concrete type facility is under construction.

The Overpass construction project is financed



Stalls reduced to ashes in early morning blaze

MYITKYINA, 27 Oct — An early morning fire broke out at the stalls on the street, the entrance to the Airport, in Pamti ward, Myitkyina in the early morning of 25 October, leaving the loss of property worth K 40 million.

The root cause of the fire was an overnight use of electric regulator at

the stalls.

The fire started in Yu Sandar Restaurant due to an overheated regulator at 1.40 am on that day.

Altogether seven fire engines and a tanker put out the fire at 3.15 am.

U Lay Maung (30 yrs) was sued for fire negligence by No (1) Police Station.

— *Kyemon*

LOCAL NEWS

Lwejel, peaceful and stable town at Myanmar-China border

MUSE, 27 Oct—Lwejel located at mile post 50 of Myanmar-China border was lack of peace and stability in the past.

Due to restoring peace and stability today, a total of 21 township level departmental offices have been opened in the town for giving services to

over 20000 local people under good governance.

The town is home to Kachin, Shan and other national races in amity and unity.

The town has one Basic Education High School, three churches and two monasteries. The local people are engaged

in cultivation of paddy and maize, oil mustard and sugarcane.

It is an area where the Myanmar-China border post and the checkpoint have been stationed. Over 100 merchants from both countries are trading commodities daily.

Myanmar Alinn

Pots of Inlay region marketable in Shan State



NYAUNGSHWE, 27 Oct—Various sizes and types of earth pots produced from Kyauktaing Village, eastern bank of Inlay Lake in Nyaungshwe Township are marketable in Shan State till today.

The majority of the local people are Shan nationals engaging in over twenty pottery industries. They produce water pots, vases, glazed mortars, basins, bio-fuel stoves, flower pots and water purifier pots.

“We have high demand for sales of flower pots in the months of Waso and Wagaung. Moreover, we sell small basins for orchids. These pots are sold at various prices ranging from K 200 to K 15000. Hotels buy pots

and vases worth K 400,000-500,000 by car. They also purchase water purifier pots. In the months of Thadingyut and Tazaungmone, people from various regions visiting PhaungdawU Pagoda buy many pots,” said pot seller Daw Kyi Kyi Sein.

In addition to pottery industries of Kyauktaing Village, Naungpo Village, four miles south of Kyauktaing Village also make bigger glazed pots.

Recently, Korean merchants gave order to buy pots for Kimchi worth K 1 million in Kyauktaing Village. As such, the pottery industry in Inlay region will have capability to penetrate to the export market in the near future.—*Myanmar Alinn*

Railways Museum in Thanbyuzayat

THANBYUZAYAT, 27 Oct—In accord with the Head of Mon State, Thanbyuzayat Railways Museum was located in six acres of land beside Yedawei railroad at the exit of

Thanbyuzayat in 1995.

The museum displayed documentary photos on construction of Myanmar-Thai railroad during the World War Two, plaster statues, and so on including

Self-reliant power supply launched

INDAW, 27 Oct—A ceremony to launch the supply of electricity on a self-reliant basis was held in Nansin-Kyundaw Village of Indaw Township, Sagaing Region, on 23 October.

Local authorities cut the ribbon to launch the power supply for the village round the clock.

Myanmar Alinn

Respects paid to older persons

NAWNGHKIO, 27 Oct—The respect paying ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Person was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Nawngkhio, Shan State, on 1 October.

On the occasion,

Monastery of over 100 years under maintenance

YEDASHE, 27 Oct—A monastery built with 52 posts for over 100 years, one four-post building and Seikathukha corridor are under maintenance in the precinct of Medekke Pagoda, three miles northeast of Yedashe in Bago Region.

Thanks to concerted efforts of disciples of the Sayadaw in maintenance works, the buildings can be seen without losing their original styles.



Medekke Pagoda Pujaniya is held from 6th waxing of Tagu to fullmoon

day in the month of Tagu annually.

Myanmar Alinn

6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament successfully conclude

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—The prize presentation for 6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament was held at Paunglaung Gymnasium in Pinyinmana on 23 October afternoon.

In the final match, Defending Champion Industry Ministry beat

Defence Ministry 3-2 and retained the champion title.

Member of Union Civil Services Board UKhin Maung Aye, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung and Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung presented prizes to the respective winning teams.

Chairman of National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan presented championship shield to champion Industry Ministry team.

Altogether 28 teams from ministries participated in the tournament.

MNA

Mobile clinic project office opened

YANGON, 27 Oct—Myanmar Medical Association and Nippon Foundation jointly opened the office of the mobile clinic project at No. 1403 of Building A3-2 on the

14th floor at Myanmar Gonyi Con-dominium on Upper Pansodan Street, here, on 24 October morning.

Chairman of MMA Professor Dr Kyaw Myint Naing and Representative of Nippon Foundation (Japan) Mr Ono formally opened the office.—*Myanmar Alinn*

Motorcycle accident leaves one dead in Tatkon

TATKON, 27 Oct—A car accident occurred on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Tatkon of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at 12 noon on 23 October, leaving one dead.

In the case, Ko Thein Oo, son of U Kyaw Aung of Kangyi Village riding motorcycle went back to his village. He took over the pony card. Unfortunately, he placed himself under the wheel of 12-wheeled truck driven by Ko Min Naing, son of U Thein Maung on the opposite way and then he was drugged to 10



feet distance. In the incident, Ko Thein Oo died on the spot. Traffic Police Force of

Nay Pyi Taw takes action over the traffic accident.

Myanmar Alinn

one steam locomotive used by Japan in the compound of the museum.

As the Commonwealth War Cemetery for the troops of allied forces who were posthumous in the Second World War in Thanbyuzayat, the foreigners visited not only the war cemetery but also the railways museum all the year round.

The museum has lack of museum characteristics. Buildings of the museum are damaged and bushes cover many parts of the area for many years.

Foreign tourists and

those of foreign news agencies took photos at the museum. In this case, the image of the museum is worse than that of Commonwealth War Cemetery.

In the open season, the Thanbyuzayat Railways Museum should be renovated to be able to earn foreign exchange from their visits while the Thanbyuzayat-Thai railroad construction project will be implemented.

Myanmar Alinn

Maize seeds exported to China

YANGON, 27 Oct—Export of maize seeds raised to 3422 tons more than the previous week in October through 105th-mile trade zone of Muse near Myanmar-China border.

From 10 to 16 October, a total of 13335 tons of maize seeds worth US\$ 5 million has been exported to China through border trade zone. In the previous week, 9913 tons of maize seeds worth US\$ 3.786 million has been exported to China.

Moreover, a total of 34845 tons of maize seeds and 55 tons of maize flour worth US\$ 7.226 million has been exported to India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Poland, Singapore and Vietnam through maritime trade from 1 January to 30 September 2012. The price of maize is fixed at US\$ 260-280 per ton through FOB.

Myanmar Alinn

A Japan-based TV channel covers documentary video at Thanbyuzayat Railways Museum.



PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 28 October, 2012

Should the car horn be banned?

Thanks to the overage car substitution scheme, changes to car import rules and a sharp drop in car prices, the unhurried street scenes of our commercial city, Yangon, change. Most of streets in the inner-city area, even on the streets of suburbs, are occupied with a flood of branded, luxurious and newer vehicles. The thing we encounter first is that we are stuck in traffic and have got to the constant noise of the traffic as Yangon's roads are more and more congested. Noise is one of the curses of modern-day life. Apart from the noise of the traffic, a loud unpleasant noise causing a public nuisance on the busy roads is the blare of car horns tooting.

When is it appropriate for a situation to honk your car horn? It is okay for the horn use to promote safe driving. But it is not going to make the situation better while you are stuck in a traffic jam. Your car horn cannot clear the traffic congestion. The horn use of bus and taxi drivers is a gesture of greeting signaling each other to ask and let the other side know what is happening ahead. Some drivers intentionally use their horns as a warning sound when they want to drive past or speed past. Several bus drivers tooted their horns as a tool for scolding rather than as a safety measure for driving while the driver in front of his car is picking up the passengers at the bus-stop. Besides, unreasoning honking possibly will encourage more reckless driving. As noise from a horn tooted exceeds 100 decibels, such a loud sound is a nuisance to everyone.

Nonetheless, we must have the horn for dangerous situations. Tapping horn to warn other road users is a safe practice for vehicles driving on the expressway. It is appropriate to honk reasonably to alert other drivers with the aim of letting the driver in front of you at the traffic lights know that the light change to green if his car is at a standstill or the driver who is driving on the wrong way and the car almost hits yours know to be more cautious that he is driving with a grave error. I would like to urge those behind the wheel to keep in mind that there is a different result between giving a brief tap on the horn and tooting the horn in the hope of intimidating the people. Their horn-using purpose will attest to the point that whether a world without car horn would be a better place for all of us or not.

19th Surgeons Conference held

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct— Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin attended 19th Surgeons Conference of surgeons group under Myanmar Medical Association held at Tha Yadana Hall of Shwepyitha Hotel in Mandalay, yesterday morning. At the conference, the Union Minister urged those attendees to beneficially apply the medicine and to serve with responsibility for the State

and the ministry.

Then, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint delivered an address.

The Union Minister, region chief minister and guests viewed medical showrooms displayed in front of the hotel.

The Union Minister attended Professor Dr Kyi Paw gold medal awarding ceremony held at the same venue.

MNA

NATIONAL
Union Energy Minister attends energy forums

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay attended the Zawtika Wellhead Platform Sail Away Ceremony in Sohar of Oman on 20 October, the World Energy Forum 2012 in Dubai of UAE on 22 October and the LNG Terminal, IPRC Technological College and PTT Global Chemical Plants in Rayong Province of Thailand during his visits from 19 to 24 October.

On 20 October, the Union Minister met Oman Oil and Natural Gas Minister Dr Mohammed Al Rumhy and Thai Energy Minister Mr Arak Chonlatanonda in Muscat of Oman and discussed cooperation in energy sector and invited their investments in oil and gas and other industries of Myanmar.

Next, the Union Minister delivered an address at Zawtika Wellhead Platform Sail Away Ceremony in Larsen & Toubro Yard in Oman.

On 22 October, the Union Minister attended the World Energy Forum 2012 in Dubai of UAE. The forum focused on sufficiency



Union Energy Minister U Than Htay meets Oman Oil and Natural Gas Minister Dr Mohammed Al Rumhy and Thai Energy Minister

Mr Arak Chonlatanonda.—MNA

of energy and sustainable development, saving energy and use of green energy for reducing global warming.

All the participants signed the agreement to cooperate in the tasks.

At Dusit Thani Hotel, the Union Minister received leader of US special diplomatic team and International Energy Cooperation Mr Carlos Pascual and discussed transparency for investors

in oil and gas industries in Myanmar, observation of Myanmar to join Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and invitation of international bidding for vacant inland and offshore blocks.

Likewise, the Union Minister received President Mr Maroun Semaan of Petrofac Ltd of Arab, Director Mr Bachir V Boustani of Applicom Co and Chief Executive Director

Mr Charbel M Abou Jaoude of Alcazar Capital Ltd and focused on opportunities for cooperation in energy sector.

On 23 October, the Myanmar delegation visited LNG Terminal in Map Ta Phut Industrial Zone. They also visited IRPC Technological College and Chemical Plant of PTT Global Chemical Public Co Ltd in the industrial zone.

MNA

Capital, technology
pave the way for market
development

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct— In his speech in meeting with townselders, departmental officials and breeders at

Myanmar awarded the Country
of Honour at 9th China-ASEAN

Expo

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct— The dinner and medal conferring ceremony for Myanmar which successfully participated at 9th China-ASEAN Expo held in Nanning of the People's Republic of China from 21 to 25 September took part at Yadana Theinga Hotel yesterday evening.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint said that Myanmar has displayed her goods at 9th China-ASEAN Expo as the Country of Honour on behalf of ASEAN and has succeeded different from previously year. He expressed a speech of congratulation on behalf of the ministry for receiving the Country of Honour, Best City of Charm Pavilion and Best

Industry Organizer prizes conferred by China-ASEAN Expo Holding Committee Office. The Union minister continued to say that Myanmar entrepreneurs have chances to directly discuss with Chinese entrepreneurs and to take part in discussions during the expo and have invited them to make trade and investment in Myanmar.

Arrangements are being made to develop private sectors with transparency and concerted efforts according to public, private and partnership procedures, he added. Myanmar has been awarded altogether three prizes including the Country of Honor, Best City of Charm Pavilion and Best Industry Organizer.—MNA

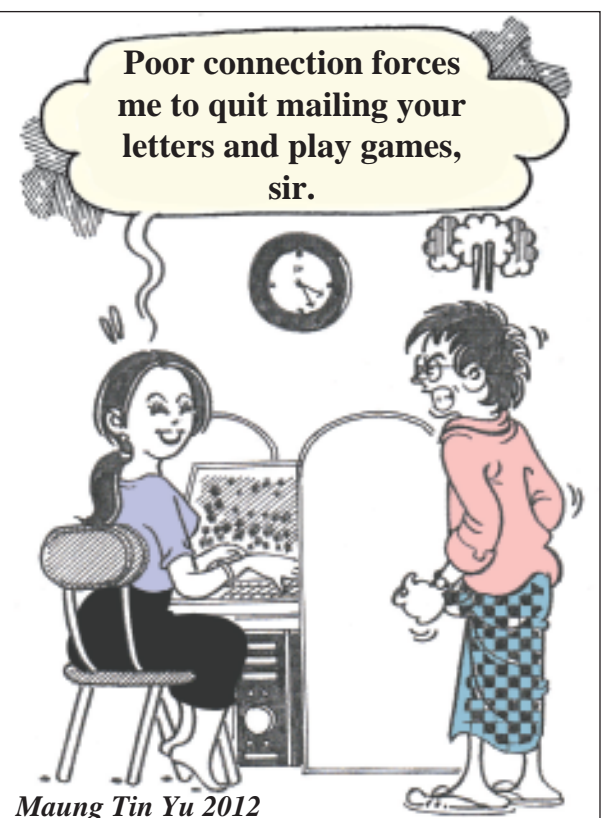
the Town Hall of Taungup in Rakhine State on 23 October, Union Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries U Ohn Myint called for refraining from illegal trading, saying that capital and technology were being provided for market development.

Next, Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Khin and Deputy Speaker

of Rakhine State Hluttaw U Tha Nyunt explained transportation, education, health and marine resources of the region.

On 24 October, the Union Minister gave talks on advantages of drinking milk to students at a primary school in Kyaukgyi Odan ward in Pyay, and visited cow breeding farm.

MNA



Maung Tin Yu 2012

Drive Safely

ARTICLE

Light Festival of Thidinkyut

The end of Buddhist Rain Retreat comes with the fullmoon day of Thidinkyut [October 30 this year]. The word "Thidin" means vows of rain retreat and observance of religious practices. "Kyut" means release. Vows of rain retreat are over and released for Purima wa vows. Monks are free to go out of their residential monasteries, as they have fulfilled their vows of rain retreat.

The zodiacal name of the month is Tula [Libra] and the zodiacal symbol is a merchant holding a balance. "Athawani" asterism of 6 stars resembling a horse's head in Aries shine abreast with the moon. All aquatic bodies in the country are still brimful with rain water and in them are abundance of lotus flowers of five different species (1) white lotus [Nymphaea alba] (2) Red lotus [Nymphaea Rubra], (3) Blue lotus [Nymphaea stellata] (4) Padoma lotus [Nelumbium speciosum] and (5) Poun Najei Kya [Lxora Arborea]. Therefore lotus flower is traditionally designated as Flower of the month of Thidinkyut.

This month was previously called "Than-tu-la" meaning "Than" is paddy crop and "Tu" means erect or upright "La" means month. Hence the month during which paddy plants grow upright. The first name of Thidinkyut was found in the stone inscription of Bagan dated [1212 A.D.] known as Tuyin Taung Saw Rahan Thein Inscription. But in it the spelling is "Tha-tin-chut" meaning "lent is off."

Light festivals are held for three successive nights, the eve, the fullmoon night and the night of the 1st

waning moon, throughout the country to welcome back to earth Gotama Buddha from Tavatimsa, the celestial kingdom. The story of the event is as follows:-

It was in the Maha Sakarit year 109 [Buddhist Era] on the evening of the fullmoon day of Waso [July] that Gotama Buddha performed the great miracle in the form of emission of water and fire in pairs from the apertures of his head to subdue the sectarian opponents. The event took place near the white mango Tree in the royal park of king Kosala, kingdom of Savathi. After the miracle the Buddha ascended Tavatimsa where his mother Queen Maha Maya became Santussita Deva. The Buddha wished to return the filial debt of gratitude he owed to his mother by preaching to her his philosophy of Abhidhamma. So the Buddha observed his seventh retreat in Tavatimsa. Sitting on the brown emerald slab called 'Pandukambala' the throne of Sakka Deva, Thunder god, under the shade of the Pinle Kathit tree (Coral Tree, Erythrina indica) the Buddha expounded these seven sections of Abhidhamma to a large gathering of devas and Brahmas including his previous mother now Santussita deva. His preaching ended on the fullmoon day of Thidinkyut. So this day was designated and celebrated by the Buddhists as "Abhidhamma Day".

The Lord Buddha told Sakka Deva that he would return to earth. Where upon Sakka Deva erected three stairways—one of gold on the right side for the devas, one of silver on the left side for the Brahmas

and one in the middle of rubies for the Lord Buddha to descend upon. There was a grand send off ceremony in honour of the Buddha. Many deities accompanied the Buddha, holding several celestial regalia. Panchi Thinkha deva with five hair knots, on the right played veluva harp in praise of the Buddha. Matali deva on the left carried and sprayed flowers and fragrances to honour the Buddha. Suyama deva carried the yaktail flywhisk. Santussita deva held the ruby-studded gold fan and Sakka Deva blew the Viza-yuttara Conch shell to celebrate the auspicious occasion.

All deities dwelling in the entire universe also gathered to bid farewell to the Buddha as best they could. The three stairways

*Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt*

being illuminated by the lights radiated from the deities led to the gateway of the city of Sankassa on earth. When the Buddha set his foot upon the earth, the king and his people who awaited at the city gate all paid obeisance to the Buddha. The entire city was illuminated by oil lamps and grand welcome ceremony was held.

Myanmar Buddhists commemorate that event of Buddha's life time annually in the month of Thidinkyut. In older days, Thidinkyut Light Festival was called Tawedeintha Pwe or Semi Myint Mo Pwe which mean Tavatimsa Festival or Mt. Meru illuminated by oil lamps Festival. In the days of Myanmar monarchy, light festival was

the state event Myanmar chronicle Konbaungset Maha Yazawuntaw Kyi (The great chronicle of the kings of Konbaung dynasty [1752-1885 A.D.] give a full account of the state festival of Thidinkyut in the reign of the last Myanmar king, King Thebaw [1878-1885 A.D.]. The king gave royal patronage to celebrate the festival. Money, material such as oil, oil cups, wicker, several accessories were issued from royal treasury and stores. Ministers down to the lowest servicemen including soldiers, watchmen etc were put in charge of celebrating the Light Festival grandly and fittingly. Big replicas of Tavatimsa and Mt. Meru were erected an either side of western Samole Saung of the Palace upon which

the descent of the Buddha with three stairways were presented. Their Majesties and the count came out to pay homage to three Replicas. Marry puppet shows were staged all 16 major Pagodas in the city. Dramatic performances were held at the Royal Theatre Hall.

One life elephant fully caparisoned, four gold elephant dummies, one red elephant dummy were made. Royal steeds, couches, flotillas were kept ready to participate in the event. Performing arts, music, song, dance, dramas, circus, acrobats of all nationalities and foreigners were staged on all three nights for the public. Two mazes, East and West, were constructed for public amusement.

Then Majesties made rounds at there mazes and gave prizes and gifts to the successful winners in the race through mazes. Followed by a big charity fair where the public was allowed to take away packages of rice, dry rations and clothings as many as they could carry on heads on shoulders and amusing to see some fell under heavy load, so they lost the game—teaching a moral lesson "greed ends in vanity and loss."

In the country side the light festival of this month takes the local

character. Towns and villages with water fronts have illuminations on water. Oil lamps are placed on floats made of banana stems and bamboos are sent down to float drifting with currents. They flickered reflecting in the ripples, as the fullmoon arose with its silvery rays through the foliage of swaying palm and coconut and mango trees thus creating a fantastic nocturnal scene. In Shan state, especially, Pa-O villages, balloons are let loose free or fire rockets are shot into the sky to pay homage to the Sulamani Pagoda in Tavatimsa.

Two serious ceremonies held in Thidinkyut Festival are Pawarana and Puja. The former is performed by monks. At the end of the lent every monk has to ask other monks to reprimand him for any sin he may have committed. This performance takes place on the fullmoon day in the ordination hall in the presence of all residing monks. The origin of Pawarana dates back to the life time of the Buddha. While the Buddha was residing in Jetavana vihara at Savalthi, some monks keeping their lent at a village in Kosala practiced the rite of keeping mum throughout the lent so that they could achieve unity and happiness among them. They through talking caused argument and dispute and slanders. When they visited the Buddha and explained their practice of the rite of keeping silent to gain unity and happiness during lent, the Buddha objected saying that keeping mum was like a dumb and that method was disrespectful to the donors and supporters of Sangha. The monk who behaves like a dumb is sinful. The best and correct way to achieve unity and happiness among Sangha was Pawa rana—inviting other monks to assemble and let each monk by turn asks other monks to point out of he has been seen, heard or suspected of committing any sin, if so, let other months reprimand the sinful monk, by so doing the sinful monk will be repented and pardoned and Sangha will live in harmony and happiness. In modern parlance, it is a democratic practice for clean Government and good governance through

transparency, responsibility and reform.

"Puja" is the ceremony performed by laymen. Puja means worshipping or devotional offering. In Buddhism there are five kinds of infinite debts of gratitude you owe (1) The Buddha, (2) the Dhamma, (3) the Sangha, (4) the Parents and (5) the Teachers. It is a religious obligation to worship and makes devotional offering to them. Not only the above five, but also to the aged, your bosses, senior in rank, education etc also to those who helped you when you were in need or difficulty deserve your homage in Thidinkyut festival time.

Fullmoon day of this month is an auspicious occasion for Myanmar Buddhists to visit the people of the above categories to pay reverence with some devotional gifts. In return they receive blessings and loving kindness from the aged, the seniors and the bosses. To young worshippers, pocket money may be given in turn for their enjoyment of the Thidinkyut Festival. The puja procedure is simple.

The performer reverently sits in front of the aged or superior, claps his or her hands together in the shape of a lotus bud and bows three times asking forgiveness for any offense he or she may have committed physically, verbally or mentally. The aged, the seniors or bosses utter words of pardon, advise and blessings quoting Mingala Sutta.

In this new 21st century, the United Nations has designated Teachers' Day, Senior Citizens (Aged people) Day, Peace Day, Democracy Day, Non-violence Day, etc, etc. Also in some countries are celebrating Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine Day and so forth we, Myanmar Buddhists, are delighted and participate with heart and soul in the observance of these Days because we have long and down deep traditions of observing such days in our long history.

The Festival of Light in Thidinkyut is an occasion for rejoicing and merry-making, but in essence it is an auspicious occasion for spiritual delight and merit-making.

YANGON, 27 Oct—Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Hockey Federation, fourth Inter-Region/State Men's Hockey Tournament continued yesterday evening at Theinbyu Artificial Turf Pitch. In the first match, Chin State beat Bago Region 2-1 and Mon State won over Yangon Region 1-0 as the second match.

Shan State played against Bago Region at 3:30 pm today.

NLM

Men's hockey tournament continues



Wrecked ship's owners plead guilty, fined in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 27 Oct — The owners of a ship which smashed into a reef off a popular New Zealand holiday spot, causing the country's worst environmental disaster in decades, pleaded guilty to causing marine pollution and were fined on Friday. Daina Shipping, a unit of Greece's Costamare Inc, pleaded guilty to a charge of

releasing harmful substances into the sea after its 47,230-ton Liberian-flagged Rena grounded on a reef a year ago. The company was fined NZ\$300,000 (\$246,000), half the maximum penalty it could have paid.

"The guilty plea by the owners has led to this case being resolved in a timely fashion and that is to be welcomed," Maritime

New Zealand Director Keith Manch said. Earlier this month the company agreed to pay NZ\$27.6 million (\$22.6 million) to the government's costs of cleaning up the pollution and wreckage spread over coastal waters and coastline. The 236-metre (775-foot) vessel struck a reef about 20 km (12 miles) off Tauranga, New Zealand's biggest export port, in October last year, spewing around 300 tons of toxic fuel oil into the ocean, killing thousands of sea birds and fouling beaches up to 100 km (60 miles) from the reef.

The ship's captain and navigation officer, both Filipino nationals, were jailed in May for seven months for operating the ship in a dangerous manner, releasing toxic substances, and altering the ship's documents. They had admitted to taking short cuts to ensure the ship did not arrive late at Tauranga.

Reuters



The bow section of the stricken container ship Rena remains above water about 14 nautical miles (22 km) from Tauranga on the east coast of New Zealand's North Island in this 4 April 2012 handout photo—REUTERS

Iran Army to hold major drill late October

Iran

TEHRAN, 27 Oct — Iran's Army is planning to hold a major drill in the western part of the country in late October, Press TV reported on Thursday.

"This maneuver will be one of a kind and among the most spectacular drills ever held by the Iranian Army," an Iranian Army commander, Brigadier General Saeed Arablou, was quoted as saying.

Arablou said that airborne and heliborne forces and other units of the Iranian Army's Ground Forces will take part in the drill, said the report.

The drill, which will be held on 29-31 October in Gilane Gharb District in the western province of Kermanshah, aims to upgrade the combat abilities of the army forces and display defence capabilities of its various divisions.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) and its Basij voluntary forces held a joint military drill in southeast of Iran's capital of Teheran on 18-19 October.

The Iranian military drills coincide with the ongoing joint military drill of the United States and Israel by the Mediterranean Sea.

On Sunday, the two armies embarked on the three-week-long "Austere

Challenge 12" (AC-12) maneuvers, which simulate responses to simultaneous mass missile attacks on Israel from several fronts.

Western countries including the United States and Israel suspect that Iran's nuclear activities aim at weapons which the Islamic republic denies.

And the United States and Israel have not ruled out the possibility of attacking Iran's nuclear facilities.

Xinhua

Int'l medical conference opens in Athens with China's support

ATHENS, 27 Oct — The 18th International Seminar of the International Association of Surgeons, Gastroenterologists and Oncologists (IASGO), during which top scholars from 45 countries and regions are expected to present important advances in the field, opened in Athens on Thursday.

The conference, running to 27 Oct with the participation of 320 experts, is organized by IASGO in cooperation with the Chinese Society of Surgeons and the Chinese Society of Minimally Invasive Surgery.

The event is also supported by the Greek authorities, the Athens

Medical Centre Group and the Chinese embassy in Athens as part of celebrations for the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Greece and China.

"To us, there is no better way of celebrating the 40 years of friendship and cooperation between China and Greece," Chinese Ambassador to Greece Du Qiwen said at the opening ceremony, pointing to the major impact the conference will leave on the development in medicine.

During the seminar which focuses on the latest innovative methods and technical achievements in the diagnosis and management

of abdominal malignancies, experts will share knowledge and experiences and build the foundations for future cooperation.

"This is the key of modernizing and upgrading health systems and medical science," Greek Health Minister Andreas Lykourantzou stressed in his welcome address, praising China's long history and important achievements in science and the value of international collaboration to face challenges.

"With fruitful cooperation Greece will overcome the difficulties it is facing at this period," the Greek official said.

Xinhua



A South Korean soldier takes part in the "Hoguk Exercise" in Seoul, South Korea, on 25 Oct, 2012. South Korea conducted the annual military exercise dubbed "Hoguk" from 25 Oct to 2 Nov across the country, involving the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the Marine Corps as they seek to improve interoperability. — XINHUA

Israel mum over Sudanese arms plant blast

JERUSALEM, 27 Oct — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday said Israel had nothing to say about Wednesday's explosion at an arms factory in Khartoum, Sudan. Israel officially has no comment on the event, the prime minister said at a joint Press conference with visiting Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti in Jerusalem.

Defence Minister Ehud Barak reiterated Netanyahu's response, telling Channel 2 news that there is "nothing to say" about this topic. On Wednesday, Sudanese officials claimed the Israeli Air Force bombed the munitions plant, which

caused secondary explosions and a massive blaze. Sudan called on the United Nations Security Council to condemn Israel for the attack, in which two people were killed. An Israeli foreign ministry spokesperson told Xinhua on Wednesday that they are unaware of the allegations. A ministry source told The Jerusalem Post that Sudan had a "tendency" to blame Israel for a number of recent untoward events. In May, the Sudanese government blamed Israel for a mysterious explosion in the eastern city of Port Sudan in which one person died, as well as a missile attack in 2011.

Xinhua



A crew member of an Argentine ship kisses his kid at the airport in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 25 Oct, 2012. Almost the entire crew of an Argentine ship impounded by a Ghanaian court flew back home late Wednesday on board an Air France Boeing 777 aircraft, after about three weeks at Ghana's Eastern Port of Tema, about 40 km east of capital Accra.

XINHUA

China

REGIONAL

Japan quake-hit nuclear plant “may still be leaking radiation” into sea

TOKYO, 27 Oct—The operator of Japan’s quake-struck Fukushima nuclear power plant said on Friday it could not rule out the possibility that it may still be leaking radiation into the sea. A massive earthquake and tsunami in March 2011 triggered fuelrod meltdowns at the plant, causing radiation leakage, contamination of food and water and mass evacuations, although the government declared in December that the disaster was under control. The comment by Tokyo Electric Power

Co follows a US academic journal *Science* article that said high radiation levels in bottom-dwelling fish caught off Fukushima prefecture indicate continued radiation leaking from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. Asked if Tokyo Electric, also known as Tepco, could confirm that the plant is not leaking radiation into the sea any more, a spokeswoman said: “Tepco cannot say such a thing, but we have confirmed that radiation levels are declining in both the sea water and seabed soil

around the plant.” Ken Buesseler, senior scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution of the United States, said in his article on the *Science* website that little change in radioactive cesium levels found in Fukushima fish suggested a continued leak. “The fact that many fish are just as contaminated today with cesium 134 and cesium 137 as they were more than one year ago implies that cesium is still being released to the food chain,” he said.—Reuters



Chinese President Hu Jintao (C), visits an exhibition featuring China’s progress in political, economic, cultural and ecological spheres over the past decade, in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Oct 2012. The exhibition, entitled “Scientific Development and Splendid Achievements,” includes 2,110 photographs and 204 charts, as well as 765 objects, video clips and electronic photo albums. —XINHUA

Kansai Electric to propose pay cut as rising costs for fuel

Japan

OSAKA, 27 Oct—Japan’s Kansai Electric Power Co. is considering proposing a 10 percent to 20 percent pay cut plan for its employees in an effort to reduce costs as its earnings are unlikely to recover due to rising fuel costs for power generation, local newspaper reported on Friday. The Kansai-based power utility will trim the salaries, including bonuses, for a year, and the planned cut follows the similar action to reduce salaries by 15 percent for its executives, which has been taken since March this year, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun* daily newspaper.

Since the utility’s management problem has already caused serious effects on the corporate bond market as well as electricity rates which will be raised reportedly in April 2013, the salary reduction is not avoidable. The report said the company is expected to present the proposal to the labour union for approval next month.

The salary reduction for workers could be the first case since 1951 when the company was founded.

Xinhua

Xinhua



Farmers pick red dates in Cangzhou, north China’s Hebei Province, on 26 Oct 2012. Cangzhou, dubbed the hometown of Chinese dates, has entered the harvesting season of red dates recently. XINHUA

Cambodian, US naval senior officials talk to boost ties

Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 27 Oct—Cambodian and the United States naval senior officials met here on Friday afternoon to strengthen and broaden bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries’ navies.

The meeting was made between Cambodian Royal Navy’s Commander Admiral Tea Vinh and U.S. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus. It was the first time Mabus made his official visit to Cambodia. Tea Vinh highly spoke of good relationship between the two sides’ navies and thanked the United States for supporting Cambodian Royal Navy in materials and capacity building.

He said that since 2007, the US Navy ships have officially visited Cambodia for 22 times with 25 warships for joint exercises.

He said Cambodia is still facing the shortages of modern materials, equipment, and ships in defending maritime territory and the country is committed to fighting against all forms of maritime crimes including terrorism, drug and human trafficking, and weapon smuggling.

Meanwhile, Mabus said the two navies have had very strong relationship and he believed that the ties would be stronger in the future.

He said that joint exercises between the US and Cambodian naval forces have

helped build professionalism and capacities for both sides.

Mabus added that in the next few years, about 60 percent of U.S. fleets will be deployed in Asia-Pacific and the United States is growing the number of the naval ships in the Asia-Pacific to at least 300 ships so that the United States and Cambodia will have more opportunities to work together to fight against terrorism and other forms of maritime infringements.

His replacement is widely believed to be the current Minister of Industry and Commerce Anand Sharma, who once served as foreign secretary in the Congress-led government.

Xinhua

Indian FM to resign Saturday ahead of cabinet reshuffle

India

NEW DELHI, 26 Oct — Indian External Affairs Minister S. M. Krishna resigned on Friday ahead of a major cabinet reshuffle on Sunday, local media reported. The 80-year-old foreign

minister is likely to take charge of Congress party affairs in his native state of Karnataka in south India after his resignation, said the reports.

Xinhua

Nagoya Mayor Takashi Kawamura (C) and officials of Merlin Entertainments Group, the operator of Legoland theme parks, pose for photos at the Nagoya city hall on 26 Oct 2012. Danish toy maker Lego Group has decided to open its first Legoland in Japan in the waterfront area of Nagoya in March 2016. KYODO NEWS



Vietnam lures 10.48 bln USD FDI in first 10 months

Vietnam

HANOI, 27 Oct—Vietnam attracted 10.48 billion US dollars of foreign direct investment (FDI) as the end of October this year, an increase of 75.3 percent year-on-year, reported the Vietnamese Ministry of Planning and Investment on Friday. Of the total, 881 newly licensed projects have registered 6.68 billion dollars, a decrease of 36.7 percent compared with the same period last year, and 359 on-going projects expanded their investment capital of 3.8 billion dollars

(up 12.3 percent), said the ministry.

The manufacturing and processing industries accounted for 66.2 percent of the total FDI, with 374 projects and 6.9 billion dollars, followed by the real estate sector with 1.84 billion dollars, and the retail and wholesale industry with 455.8 million dollars.

Japan took the lead among 52 countries and regions investing in Vietnam so far this year, with newly registered and expanded investment of 4.92 billion

dollars, followed by the Republic of Korea with 936.7 million dollars and Samoa with 899.8 million dollars.

Southern Binh Duong Province ranked top among 48 localities nationwide, with 2.17 billion dollars, followed by southern Ho Chi Minh City with 1.12 billion dollars and northern Hai Phong City with 1.08 billion dollars. During the period, the country disbursed around 9 billion dollars from FDI projects, a slight decrease of 1.1 percent from a year earlier.—Xinhua

China on orange alert with high waves expected

China

BEIJING, 27 Oct — Typhoon Son-Tinh is expected to cause high waves in the South China Sea with the country issuing an orange level wave warning on Saturday morning.

The National Marine Environmental Forecasting Centre said the tropical storm developed into a typhoon early Saturday morning and was heading toward the northwest with the same strength or slightly gaining force. Orange alert is the second highest level on China’s four-tier color-coded warning system for strong winds.

Son-Tinh is expected to sweep the South China Sea off Hainan Province during Saturday night. As the Typhoon approached, waves of five to eight meters had been seen in the east of the South China Sea. According to the forecast, waves up to five to eight meters will be seen in the west part of the

sea in the 24 hours starting Saturday noon. Waves of three to five meters will be seen in the Northern Bay.

Waves up to 3.5 to 4.5 meters high will hit seas off the eastern and southern Hainan Province.

There could also be waves of two to three meters off the western Hainan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autono-

mous Region. The center warned ships and people in affected areas to be careful urging authorities to take full precautions.

It has forecast up to 80 cm of precipitation on Saturday along the coast of eastern and southern Hainan province and eastern coast of Leizhou peninsula.

Xinhua



A vehicle moves on the waterlogged road in rain in Sanya, south China’s island province of Hainan, on 27 Oct, 2012. Son-Tinh, the 23rd tropical storm this year, strengthened to typhoon on early Saturday morning and is expected to bring rainstorms and gales to China’s southern coastal areas, the country’s meteorological authority said Saturday.—XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (059)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (059) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Two British athletes' Olympic medals stolen

LONDON, 27 Oct— Two British athletes' Olympic medals were stolen on Wednesday after the two leaving a Buckingham Palace reception with Queen Elizabeth II to honour British athletes who took part in London Olympic Games.

Rower Alex Partridge and hockey player Hannah Macleod publicized the search for their missing Olympic bronze medals on

Twitter. Partridge, 31, said both his Olympic blazer and medal were stolen.

A 29-year-old man was later arrested in connection with the inquiry, but the police said the medals still hadn't been found.

The 28-year-old Macleod also said on Twitter that she was "devastated" after her medal was taken at the same time.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 25 Oct, 2012 shows the dried-up lake bed of Poyang Lake nearby the Xingzi county in Jiujiang city of east China's Jiangxi Province. China's largest freshwater lake, Poyang Lake, has seen a low water level in recent days, with the water-surface area shrinking from this year's record of 3,990 square km to the current 1,060 square km.—XINHUA

Brazilian sexagenarian gives birth to twins

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Oct — A 61-year-old Brazilian woman gave birth to twins Tuesday night, local Press said on Thursday. "I am very happy, I fulfilled my dream of becoming a mother," the mother Antonia Leticia Asti said. "I have always wanted to be a mother. We did not have many financial means, but we saved up to fulfill our dream."

The twins, a boy and a girl who were named Sofia and Roberto, were born prematurely at 31 weeks of pregnancy, weighing only 900 grams. They will remain in the intensive care unit of a local hospital for a few

weeks until they gain more weight. Doctors chose to do the delivery earlier due to high blood pressure problems suffered by the mother.

"The mother is well, despite the high risk of a gestation at an advanced age," said Doctor Marco Antonio Antun. The mother had been trying to conceive for over two decades, and underwent fertility treatments, which included four artificial insemination attempts. She and her 55-year-old husband had previously tried to adopt a child, but were denied due to their advanced age.

Xinhua

Archaeology

Archaeologists uncover oldest tomb of Mayan ruler

MEXICO CITY, 27 Oct— Archaeologists announced on Thursday they have uncovered one of the oldest royal Mayan tombs.

Experts said the grave, discovered at Guatemala's Tak'alik Ab'aj site, belonged to King K'utz Chman, a priest who is believed to rule around 700 BC and be buried some time between 700 and 400 BC, a time of transition between the Olmec and early Mayan cultures, or the "the dawn of the Mayan era."

The ancient tomb could shed light on the formation of the Mayan civilization, making it "the biggest archeological discovery of 2012," experts said.

The king's burial site features sophisticated relics, including six female figurines and a spectacular loincloth carrying the image of a vulture, which was a symbol of power and high economic status.

Xinhua

Pressure on BOJ to act mounts as deflation persists

Japan

TOKYO, 27 Oct— Japan remains mired in deflation, price data showed on Friday, piling pressure on the central bank to deliver more stimulus next week to keep the world's third-largest economy from sliding into recession.

The fifth consecutive annual drop in core consumer prices reinforced market expectations that the Bank of Japan will boost its asset purchases, probably by 10 trillion yen (\$124.74 billion), next week in response to a slew of worsening economic data.

The government also kept up the heat with Economy Minister Seiji Maehara calling for joint decisive action of the government and the central bank to support the economy.

"Central banks around the world are easing monetary policy. The BOJ itself set a 1 percent inflation goal in February but that hasn't been achieved. As price falls are continuing, I want to ask the central bank to pursue powerful monetary easing," Maehara told reporters after a cabinet meeting.

The government can send its representatives to BOJ meetings and Maehara

has said he wanted to attend the one next week. The central bank is expected to cut its growth and price projections at the 30 October policy meeting and admit that it was farther away from reaching the inflation goal than earlier thought.

Japan's core consumer prices fell 0.1 percent in the year to September, slightly less than expected, but economists said that was only due to higher energy costs and masked persistent deflationary pressures in the weakening economy. The data follow recent statistics showing last month's exports posted their biggest annual drop since the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake while

manufacturers' mood hit its lowest since early 2010, as the diplomatic row with China threatens the export-reliant economy amid the global slowdown. "Prices have turned out weaker than the BOJ expected and the economy is slowing more than the bank anticipated, with both exports and domestic demand weakening," said Yoshimasa Maruyama, chief economist at Itochu Economic Research Institute in Tokyo.

"As such, I expect the BOJ will top up its asset-buying program by 10 trillion yen next week as it comes under pressure from the real economy as well as from politics."—Reuters



A woman walks past the Bank of Japan building in Tokyo on 26 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Buzzard oilfield yet to restart; more Forties delays seen

Energy

LONDON, 27 Oct— The restart of Britain's largest oilfield after a maintenance shutdown has slipped further, trade sources said on Thursday, in what may further impact shipments of the oil that sets the Brent benchmark.

The Buzzard field in the North Sea, the largest of the fields contributing to the Forties crude blend which underpins the Brent contract, is expected to restart in the next couple of days, the source said, not 25 or 26 October as previously thought.

A series of delays in the restart of the field has disrupted shipments of Forties crude, leading to an increase in the premium in the price of Brent oil for immediate delivery, and frustrating buyers and sellers of the crude. "Not yet," the source said, asked if the field had restarted. "Next couple of days."

A second source, familiar with Forties production, said the restart was expected by Monday. The timescales from the trade sources differ from an official statement from

Canadian oil company Nexen, Buzzard's operator, in its third-quarter earnings statement on Thursday.

"We are in the process of restarting the platform, and expect production to ramp up in the next week to 10 days," Calgary-based Nexen said. Buzzard has been shut since 4 September and prolonged work at the field has contributed to delays in all 16 of the Forties cargoes due to be loaded in October.

So far, one November shipment has been cancelled and two delayed. One Forties

trader was expecting details of further cargo delays to emerge in the next few days.

A loss of Buzzard output for just a few days can have a significant impact on Forties loadings since the field pumps 200,000 barrels per day (bpd), enough to fill a Forties cargo every three days.

Restarting North Sea installations often takes longer than expected due to problems including bad weather and the emergence of unexpected engineering and technical issues.

Reuters

Eyelash extensions all the rage among women of all ages

Feature

TOKYO, 27 Oct — No longer the preserve of celebrities or teens, eyelash extensions have become a popular beauty procedure among women in a wide range of ages, with a recent surge in the number of salons with therapists specializing in the treatment.

Semi-permanent eyelash extensions used to be

"a beauty technique just for celebrities such as fashion models," said Maki Miura, head of the Japan Eyelash Association.

"But the price for a full set (of extensions) has declined to about 10,000 yen and (the procedure) has spread rapidly among ordinary customers over the last three years," Miura said.—Kyodo News



Students learn techniques for eyelash extensions at Kubota Beauty and Hairdressing College in Tokyo's Nakano Ward. Photo taken on 11 Sept, 2012.

KYODO NEWS

ENTERTAINMENT

Confidante put drugs in Britney's food, singer's mom testifies

LOS ANGELES, 27 Oct — The one-time confidante of Britney Spears said he crushed up drugs in the pop singer's food to help her sleep and disabled her phone lines during the height of her meltdown five years ago, Spears' mother testified on Friday.

Lynne Spears told the Los Angeles jury in a civil trial that Sam Lutfi, Britney's self-styled manager at the time, described his actions to her in a January 2008 exchange at her daughter's Los Angeles home. "Those were his exact words," Lynne Spears said on her first day on the witness stand. "I was very worried and I didn't know what to do so I tried to get her away from there."

Lutfi is suing Lynne Spears for defaming him in her 2008 book "Through the Storm," in which she related some of Lutfi's actions in 2007 when he became the singer's closest friend, and moved into her house. Lynne Spears admitted under cross examination that she did not call police despite her concerns about her daughter. She also acknowledged she had been estranged from her daughter for months in 2007, and that Lutfi told her he



wanted to help reunite them. Lynne Spears' book also claims Lutfi tried to cut the singer off from her family, and portrays him as a figure who controlled her every move.

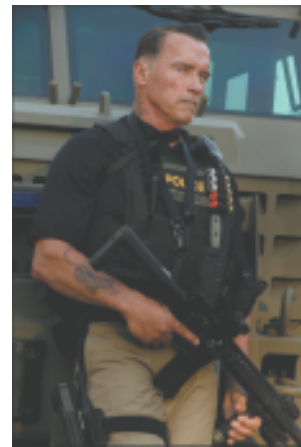
Lutfi, who met Spears in a nightclub in 2007 and has said he tried to wean her off drugs, testified tearfully earlier this week he received death threats after the book was published. The week-long trial has lifted the lid on the much-publicized meltdown by Spears in 2007 and early 2008, in which she went through a divorce, lost custody of her two kids, shaved her head and wielded an umbrella at paparazzi. —Reuters

Arnold Schwarzenegger to reprise "Conan" movie role

LOS ANGELES, 27 Oct — Arnold Schwarzenegger is reprising one of his most famous movie roles — Conan the Barbarian — for an upcoming sequel, Universal Pictures said on Friday. Schwarzenegger, 65, will play the sword-swinging hero in "The Legend of Conan," 30 years after the film that launched the Austrian body-builder as a Hollywood star. "I always loved the Conan character, and I'm honoured to be asked to step into the role once again," Schwarzenegger said in a statement.

The original films, 1982's "Conan the Barbarian" and 1984's "Conan The Destroyer," together grossed more than \$70 million at US box office.

The "Conan" franchise was remade in 2011 with "Game of Thrones" star Jason Momoa, but the film — also called "Conan the Barbarian"



Arnold Schwarzenegger

— failed to repeat the success of its predecessors, earning only \$21 million at the North American box office, according to film tracking site BoxOfficeMojo.com.

The new "Conan" film is the latest Hollywood venture by Schwarzenegger since the action movie hero

ended his term as governor of California in January 2011. He starred alongside Hollywood's veteran action heroes in this summer's "The Expendables 2," and is lined up to star in five other films, including thriller "Ten" and "Triplets," a sequel to his hit 1988 comedy "Twins" alongside co-star Danny DeVito. Schwarzenegger, a Republican, also has launched a global policy think-tank in his name at the University of Southern California, and released a memoir in October, "Total Recall: My Unbelievably True Life." The book revealed details of the child Schwarzenegger fathered with his family's housekeeper 15 years ago, while married to Maria Shriver.

Reuters

Justin Bieber likes to travel with Selena Gomez



LONDON, 27 Oct — Teen pop sensation Justin Bieber says he loves travelling with girlfriend Selena Gomez.

The 18-year-old singer said dating in the public eye can be difficult but he can not understand why some famous men refuse to

admit to their relationships and force their girlfriends to travel apart from them, reported Showbiz spy.

"I never make (Selena) separate from me because I don't want her to ever feel like I'm ashamed of her."

PTI

"I have no plans of marrying George Clooney"



LONDON, 27 Oct — Hollywood star George Clooney's new girlfriend Stacy Keibler says she has no interest in a wedding ring or babies anytime soon.

The 33-year-old former WWE star, who has been dating the Hollywood heartthrob for more than a year, said she is in no rush to settle down, reported Sun online.

"That is not on my radar at all. I'm definitely the girl who doesn't talk about that kind of stuff."

PTI

Hollywood star George Clooney's new girlfriend Stacy Keibler

Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart still have trust issues

LOS ANGELES, 27 Oct — Hollywood couple Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart reportedly still have trust issues, even though they have reconciled after the cheating scandal.

The 22-year-old actress admitted to have cheated on Pattinson with married director Rupert Sanders three months back, reported People magazine.

"There's still healing to do and trust issue but Kristen will do whatever it takes. Robert never stopped loving her, so took her back," a source said.



PTI Robert Pattinson

Justin Timberlake apologizes for "distasteful" homeless video

LOS ANGELES, 27 Oct — Singer Justin Timberlake apologized on Friday for what he called a "distasteful" video that features homeless people in Los Angeles congratulating him and new wife Jessica Biel on their wedding. The video was made by a friend of Timberlake's and intended as a humorous gift for the couple's lavish wedding in Italy last week. The joke backfired when gossip website Gawker got hold of the video and celebrity news site TMZ.com tracked down one of the homeless men, who said he had been paid \$40 for appearing in it.

In an open letter on his website, Timberlake said he had no knowledge of the video and "had absolutely ZERO contribution to it" but agreed that it was

"distasteful" and was "made as a joke and not in any way in mockery". My friends are good people. This was clearly a lapse in judgment which I'm sure no one who is reading this is exempt from. But, I don't believe it was made to be insensitive. More so, I think it was made as a joke on me not having that many friends attending

my own wedding (which IS kind of funny if you think about it)," the "Sexyback" singer said.

"Like many silly rumors that I have been made aware of about the week: It was NOT shown at my wedding...I think we can all agree that it was distasteful, even though that was not its intention."



Cast member Justin Timberlake poses at the premiere of "Trouble with the Curve" at the Village Theatre in Los Angeles, California on 19 Sept 2012. — REUTERS

Timberlake signed off lightheartedly, saying "I'm having my friend do at least 100 hours of community service... Boom." Gawker was forced to remove the video from their site earlier this week when they were threatened with a lawsuit from attorneys representing Timberlake's friend, Justin Huchel, who said the film was stolen and was made "to be used and exhibited privately at Justin Timberlake's wedding as a private joke without Mr. Timberlake's knowledge".

Timberlake, 31, a former member of 1990s boy band N'Sync who has forged a Hollywood acting career, married "Total Recall" actress Biel, 30, in southern Italy last week with close friends and family in attendance.

Reuters

Almagro's Tour Finals hopes dented by Ferrer

VALENCIA, 27 Oct — Nicolas Almagro's chances of making next month's World Tour Finals in London were dealt a blow when he was beaten 6-3, 7-5 by top seed and Spanish compatriot David Ferrer in the quarter-finals of the Valencia Open on Friday.

Almagro, seeded sixth at the indoor

hardcourtevent, did not win a game on the Ferrer serve but lost his own twice as he slipped to a 12th defeat in 12 career

meetings with the world number five.

"I managed to get a lot of my first serves in and kept that up for the whole match," said Ferrer who has already qualified for the Tour Finals.

"It was a very balanced affair and I felt I was very consistent and maybe at the end of the second set his level tailed off a bit and I was able to take

advantage," the 30-year-old added in an interview



Tennis

Azarenka seals world No 1 after beating Li Na at WTA Championships

ISTANBUL, 27 Oct — Victoria Azarenka of Belarus endured to end 2012 as the world No 1 by beating Li Na of China 7-6, 6-3 at the WTA Championships on Friday and booked a semifinal clash with Maria Sharapova of Russia.

"It feels great, a dream comes true," Azarenka said of her achievement after the match in a courtside interview.

"I want to play my last matches here and then enjoy being the world number one. I want to focus on this competition, there are still lots of challenges ahead."

In the other two matches on the final day of round-robin play,

Sharapova swept past Samantha Stosur of Australia 6-0, 6-3 while Agnieszka Radwanska, the No 4 seed from Poland, booked a semifinal with Serena Williams of the United States after defeating Italian Sara Errani 6-7, 7-5 and 6-4.

Xinhua



with Spanish television. Ferrer, like world number 12 Almagro a double champion in Valencia, will play Ivan Dodig on Saturday for a place in the final after the Croatian qualifier upset compatriot and seventh seed Marin Cilic 6-2 7-6. Cilic needed a win against 110th-ranked Dodig to boost his slim hopes of making it through to the Tour finals but came up short in the pair's first meeting on the ATP Tour. Reuters

Sharapova beats Stosur at WTA Championships

ISTANBUL, 27 Oct — Maria Sharapova brushed aside Sam Stosur 6-0, 6-3 at the WTA Championships here on Friday.

Sharapova has already qualified for the semifinals of the season-ending eight-women event, before her tie with Stosur, an alternate who replaced defending

champion Petra Kvitova, who withdrew because of illness.

Xinhua



Maria Sharapova of Russia celebrates during her match against Samantha Stosur of Australia on the fourth day of the singles round robin of WTA Championships 2012 in Istanbul of Turkey on 26 Oct, 2012. Maria Sharapova won the match with 2-0.— XINHUA

Russia to set Sochi medal goals in next spring

MOSCOW, 27 Oct — Russian government would set its medal goals for the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics until the spring, Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko said Friday.

Since the Black Sea resort of Sochi would host a number of competitions in all Winter Olympic sports items to test the newly built facilities, Russian government would set winning goals pending the athletes' performances

during the new winter sports season, Mutko told R-Sport.

At the end the season, sports authorities would "formulate a target with sights set on the Sochi Olympics and we'll tell Russian citizens honestly what we want from this national squad," Mutko added. In winter 2012-2013, a series of test competitions will be held in the Olympics venues.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC)

said on earlier October that the preparations for the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi were "impeccable".

Under the theme of "Hot. Cool. Yours.", the Sochi Olympics will be opened on 7 February, 2014 and run until 23 February. The Games will feature 98 medal events, which is 12 more than those of the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada.

Xinhua

American Dufner lands his first ace on PGA Tour

Golf

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Oct — World number nine Jason Dufner hit first hole-in-one at a PGA Tour sanctioned event when he aced the 201-yard par three seventh hole during the third round of the CIMB Classic on Saturday.

The American's five-iron shot was the highlight of a seven-under-par round of 64 that catapulted him up the leaderboard on a nine-under 204 total at the \$6.1 million event that is co-sanctioned

with the Asian Tour and PGA of Malaysia. "Yeah, had a pretty good number in there, hit a five-iron, was able to hit a nice shot, a little bit of luck and it went in the hole," Dufner, who has won twice on Tour this year, told Reuters.

"First one in competition, 15th, I think, in my life so nice to get one in competition."

Dufner is the second highest ranked player in the 48-man field this week behind only 14-times major winner

Tiger Woods, who started his third round brightly to hold the lead on 14-under after eight holes of his round.

The crowds flocked to the Mines Golf Course in Kuala Lumpur to see Woods on his return to Malaysia for the first time in 13 years, with Dufner's shot of the day attracting little attention.

"Maybe about five or six people," Dufner said of the audience for his highlight reel shot.— Reuters

Stoner takes pole at Phillip Island Motorcycling

Island

PHILLIP ISLAND, (Australia), 27 Oct — Australia's Casey Stoner shrugged off a lame ankle and an early crash in qualifying to take pole position and remain on track for a fairytale farewell at his home Grand Prix on Saturday.

The retiring MotoGP champion lost control of his

Honda at Phillip Island's hairpin turn 20 minutes into the session, but hobbled away from the crash and rode a spare bike to a pace-setting lap of one minute 29.623 seconds.

Champion-in-waiting Jorge Lorenzo, who can seal his second MotoGP title should he snatch a podium

position ahead of fellow Spaniard Dani Pedrosa on Sunday, was second fastest, more than half a second behind Stoner.

Pedrosa pushed hard to edge Lorenzo to sustain his late challenge in the title race, but was denied by rain in the final minutes and will line up third on the grid.— Reuters



GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL	MYANMAR TV
<p>(28-10-12 09:30 am ~ 29-10-12 09:30 am) MST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * News * Thadingyut Lighting Festival with Great Devotions * Vietnam Expo 2012 (Press Conference) * News * Road to 27th Sea Games (Badminton) * Semi Final Contest of Mr. and Ms. Taw Win * A Glimpse of Japan's Heritage "Okinawa World Heritage" * News * Fortune of human Correlated with Astro Science 12 Sign Ascendants in November 	<p>(28-10-2012, Sunday)</p> <p>7:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw <p>7:25 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To Be Healthy Exercise <p>7:40 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Nice & Sweet Song <p>8:05 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. (38) Phyar Mingalars <p>8:20 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Teleplay (Health) <p>8:50 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Songs of Thadingyut Festival <p>11:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Martial Song <p>11:10 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8. TV Drama Series <p>12:10 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9. How It's Works <p>12:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Myanmar Movie <p>4:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Song of National Race <p>4:40 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Year (Oriental) <p>4:55 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Songs For Upholding National Spirit <p>5:15 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Sing & Enjoy <p>6:20 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Cartoon Series <p>6:40 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Tamyethnar Takwetsar <p>7:40 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17. TV Drama Series <p>8:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18. News 19. Cartoon Series 20. TV Drama Series 21. New Melody

Zimbabwe Vice President Mujuru meets Formula 2 driver Jefferies

HARARE, 27 Oct— Zimbabwe Vice President Joice Mujuru expressed good wishes to Formula 2 driver Axcil Jefferies and urged him to continue flying the country's flag high in Europe as part of efforts to change its perception abroad.

Mujuru met Jefferies at her Munhumutapa office on Thursday, saying that as the local motor sport patron, she felt very proud to meet the 18 year-old, who is on a brief holiday back home after a successful Formula 2 debut.

The 18-year old Jefferies, who has been a revelation in Formula 2 car racing, where he finished in the top 10, was accompanied by the local motor sport's patron by his mother and Media, Information and Publicity Minister Webster Shamu.

Jefferies said he felt proud to be a Zimbabwean, especially after receiving overwhelming support.

During the last two years, Jefferies' parents had to sell their home and business trying to support their son pursue his dream of competing against the world's best.

Jefferies leaves Harare for Europe on Friday afternoon to start preparations for the new season which begins in March next year.—Xinhua

NLM **Word! (2)** **Learning English**

This week, we are going to learn from words of a politician, a pollster and an angry father.

“Thailand has become a Wild West movie.”
 Chuwit Kamolvisit
 Thai politician
 The massage parlour tycoon-turned politician groaned about looming gun crime in Thailand. According to a Reuters report, the Southeast Asian country witnessed relatively high 5.3 gun murders per 100,000 people in 2001. The politician dubbed the escalating gun war in the "Land of Smiles" the Hollywood action blockbuster. Despite, Thailand has already been a setting for Hollywood films of which "Bangkok Dangerous" is the most famous one.

“It's very much neck and neck.”
 Julia Clark
 Ipsos pollster
 US presidential election is nearing and the final debate has been wrapped up. A poll by Reuters and Ipsos indicated a tough race between Democratic incumbent Obama and former Governor Mitt Romney for the White House. The pollster said the result is the battle is very much tightened, but with a Obama has voted early and urged the citizens to do so.

“You have crossed the line and bitten off a lot more than you can chew.”
 Michael Lohan
 Father of troublesome Hollywood star Lindsay Lohan
 Michael has warned the crowd around his party-loving daughter against “misguided morals” for recent quarrel with her mother. But the 26-year-old said she is “done” with her father as he betrayed the trust she confided in him by publicizing the private conversation. She also admitted that she told a huge lie to his father that her mother Dina is on cocaine.

Hurricane Sandy slogs toward US, 41 killed in Caribbean

NEW YORK, 27 Oct— Hurricane Sandy, a late-season Atlantic cyclone that threatens to be one of the worst storms to hit the Northeast in decades, slogged slowly northward on Friday after killing at least 41 people in the Caribbean. Forecasters said wind damage, widespread and extended power outages and coastal and inland flooding were anticipated across a broad swath of the densely populated US East Coast when Sandy comes ashore early next week.



Hurricane Sandy is seen churning towards the United States in this NASA handout satellite image taken on 26 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

“We’re expecting a large, large storm. The circulation of this storm as it approaches the coast could cover about the eastern third of the United States,” said Louis Uccellini, director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Centres for Environmental Prediction.

He stopped short of calling Sandy possibly the worst storm to hit the US Northeast in 100 years, as some weather watchers were doing, but said Sandy was shaping up to go down as a storm of “historic” proportions.

The late-season hybrid storm has been dubbed “Frankenstorm” by some weather watchers because it will combine elements of a tropical cyclone and a winter storm. Forecast models show it will have all of the ingredients to morph into a massive and potentially catastrophic “super storm.”—Reuters

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Typhoon Son-Tinh to bring rainstorms to S China

BEIJING, 27 Oct—Son-Tinh, the 23rd tropical storm this year, strengthened to typhoon early Saturday morning and is expected to bring rainstorms and gales to China's southern coastal areas, the country's meteorological authority said on Saturday.

The National Meteorological Centre of China said the center of Son-Tinh, which is gaining strength, was 75 kilometres to the southwest of Sansha, a newly established city in the South China Sea, at

5 am Saturday. It was moving northwestward at a speed of 20 to 25 km per hour.

The approaching Son-Tinh is expected to bring heavy rainfall and strong wind to the southern parts of China, including parts of Hainan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the coming two days.

Sansha and southern parts of Hainan will be hit the hardest by downpours, according to the meteorological centre.

Xinhua

Dodd-Frank forces European banks to review US deals

LONDON, 27 Oct—Some European banks are ordering their brokers to rein in and even quit trading some derivatives with US-based peers in a protest against tough new American rules.

The Dodd-Frank regulations, which come into force in early 2013, will subject non-US banks to foreign as well as domestic regulatory scrutiny in derivatives trading, imposing a fresh bureaucratic burden.

US regulators want all banks annually trading more than \$8 billion of swaps — financial instruments used to

bet on movements in interest and currency rates — with US-based companies to register as active participants in the US derivatives market.

But some mid-sized non-US banks have told their brokers to stop doing trades with US firms, in the hope of avoiding the \$8 billion threshold and the burden of becoming a US-regulated dealer.

“Numerous counterparties in Europe and Asia have requested they do not face US-based counterparties so they do not build up any swap volumes towards the



A customer makes a withdrawal from a Nordea automatic teller machine in Stockholm on 29 Aug, 2011. —REUTERS

threshold,” said a senior European swaps broker, who declined to be named in line with client confidentiality constraints.

Reuters

More private investment invited for solving visitors' difficulties

YANGON, 27 Oct—More private investment in Yangon International Airport of Department of Civil Aviation under the Ministry of Transport extension tasks, airport services, management and maintenance are invited. An press conference for those projects was held at Institute of Civil Aviation on 25 October, attended by those from respective fields,

entrepreneurs from local, foreign countries and media men.

For the time being the Yangon International Airport can handle 2.7 million visitors each year. The incoming rate of visitors are increasing year after year, exceeding the limited amount. The airport extension is urgently required in order to solve congestion problem.

MNA

Woods loses ground in Malaysia, Van Pelt flirts with 59

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Oct—Tiger Woods found lakes, bunkers and cart paths to stall his third round charge up the CIMB Classic leaderboard on Saturday, as Bo Van Pelt grabbed a share of the lead after flirting with golf's magical 59.

shoot a low one tomorrow, something similar like Bo did today, but probably being this far back, I'm going to need some help, a great round tomorrow might not win that's the only problem."

Starting the day five behind Garrigus, Woods



Defending champion Van Pelt double-bogeyed the last to sign for a nine-under-par 62 and sit at the top of the leaderboard on 16-under 197 alongside overnight front-runner Robert Garrigus (69), with Woods (69) a further five shots back in joint 10th. Heavy rain in Malaysia led to a second day of preferred lies at the soggy Mines Golf Course, leaving the course exposed to supreme scoring with only five of the 48 players in the field going over par in their third round.

Woods had raced to the turn in 30 after five birdies and four pars but his round unraveled on the back nine as he dropped five shots to offset two more birdies on another stifling day in Kuala Lumpur.

"I made a couple of bad decisions, bad swings on top of that, just all-in-all made too many mistakes and on a golf course that is playing this benign, you can't afford to do that," Woods told reporters.

"I'm going to have to

roared out of the blocks, holing a 12 foot birdie putt from the fringe on the short par-four first as he finally found some form with the short stick after two days of struggles.

Four further birdies came by the eighth as he raced to 14-under and held the lead on his own in the PGA and Asian Tour co-sanctioned event, which will become an official tournament on the American circuit next year.

However, the rest of the field were also taking advantage of the ideal conditions and Woods was joined at the top by four others at one stage, including Van Pelt, who had started the day seven back but turned in 29 to make up the gap.

Van Pelt added further birdies at 10, 11 and 12 to make it five in a row as he moved two ahead of Woods and set up the chance of joining the likes of David Duval, Chip Beck and Stuart Appleby in the 59-club.

Reuters

Colourful views of Yangonites

Myanma Alinn, Kyemon and The New Light of Myanmar were brought to the subscribers in colour with new outlook. The colour versions were distributed in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay scine 18 October. Yangon edition of Kyemon daily in colour was distributed on 25 October. The two Myanmar-language dailies are being printed in colour in Yangon in either week. Here are views of Yangonites on relaunch of the papers in colour.



"Inform sharp, win more audiences."

U Hla Win
Deputy Director (Retd)
Myanma Radio and Television

"Sale of the newspapers at Yangon International Airport let me indulge in the

reminiscence of newspaper vendors at the railway station, bus stops and jetties. I bought a newspaper from a vendor earlier in the morning. I like today issue of Kyemon in colour. I will digest all the contents later. I've noticed that the newspapers are changing. I found they have tried to print more sections such as by-lines, opinions and other knowledgeable stuff. If the events that the people should be informed of are reported sharply, they'll become the state-owned papers respected by the people."



"More pages, please!"

U Kan Thaung
Assistant Supervisor
Myanma Railways

"The newspapers in colour are attracting in

new outlook. I've become accustomed to reading the newspapers earlier in the morning. I'm the first reader at the railway station. I've noticed that it has been five or six months they've printed more contents. I'm reading a news report in brief in Kyemon about rail transportation, about circular train. I digest the whole paper in my leisure time. It takes not much time as they carry less pages. It would be better with more pages."



"No overnight change."

Ko Phyho Han Kyaw
Bhamo

"In fact, I'm not a Yangonite. I'm here on a visit and going back home. I first thought it was a journal. I found it was Kyemon when it came nearer. I bought it from a vendor to read while waiting for the

plane. It's cheap. I know the newspapers are changing and become better. I accept that Rome is not built in a day. I think the gradual change is better and firmer."



"A world of difference."

Tin Zaw Moe
Nawarat Centre

"There's a world of difference between newspapers of the past and Kyemon in my hands. This edition brings more sections. Quality of the colour paper is improved. I would love to see more interesting reports. I found an obituary of an acquaintance of mine in Bogalay. All four staff of ours bought a newspaper each at 5 am. Our family distanced ourselves away from newspapers. Now we've become the subscribers."

Trade promotion discussed

YANGON, 27 Oct—Australian Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations and Mr. Bill Shorten and party and President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung held

a discussion on measures for further promotion of trade and investment, job opportunities and skilled workers, banking services, information technology and telecommunications, export, import and trade, legal affairs on foreign investment and matters

ASEAN Chess Game Pre-SEA Games Event concludes

YANGON, 27 Oct—The prize presentation ceremony of ASEAN Chess Game 2012 Pre-SEA Games Event jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Chess Federation took place at

Central Hotel on Bogyoke Aung San Street here this evening.

President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Lwin presented certificates to those who are recognized as Myanmar traditional chess

adjudicator, international chess adjudicator and international master adjudicator.

Next, winners were awarded in different categories and Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Economic presented championship trophy to Myanmar chess team which stood first in most categories.—MNA

Low pressure area over South Bay of Bengal

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—According to the observations at 1.30 hrs MST today, a low pressure

area has formed over South Bay of Bengal, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

related to Myanmar-Australia economic cooperation at the UMFCCI

head office on 25 October morning.

MNA

Child care system discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—Chin State Committee of the Child Rights held the meeting 1/2012 at the hall of State Government yesterday.

Local authorities and officials concerned discussed protection of children and establishment of child care system.

MNA

In echoes of Obama, Romney seeks to adopt mantle of change



PAGE 3



Chinese President Hu Jintao (C), visits an exhibition featuring China's progress in political, economic, cultural and ecological spheres over the past decade, in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Oct 2012.

PAGE 11

Stoner takes pole at Phillip Island



PAGE 14