

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Belgian Ambassador



President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Algerian President, Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and

His Excellency Mr Ahmed Ouyahia, Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2012. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct—H.E Mr Marc Michielsens, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at Presidential Palace, here, at

10.30 am today. Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department. MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Marc Michielsens. —MNA

Convoys not allowed except ambulance, State level vehicles

YANGON, 31 Oct—Due to increased problems of traffic jams in Yangon City, important convoys will not be allowed for easing the traffic problems except vehicles for State level personnel and ambulances.

“Only when will the vehicles of State level personnel be allowed as convoy so as to avoid traffic jams. If not necessary, other convoys will not be allowed. Another one is ambulance to be allowed,” said an official of Yangon Region All Private Bus-line Control

Committee.

At present, traffic jams break out a largest number in Yangon City. In consequence, most of the service personnel at downtown area take one to three hours for going to the offices to be able to overcome the difficulties of traffic jams. Taxi drivers also spend thirty minutes to one hour for one route. So, they increase taxi fares. Finally, the taxi passengers are under the burden of high taxi fares.

Myanma Alinn

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of New Zealand Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct—H.E Mr Anthony John Lynch, the newly-accredited Ambassador of New Zealand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.—MNA



President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of newly-accredited Ambassador of New Zealand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Anthony John Lynch.

MNA

Mines should not upset ecological balance



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Test-run census taking 30 May-10 April 2013



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**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Announcement (2/ 2012)**

**31 October 2012
1st Waning of Thadingyut, 1374 ME**

Announcement regarding conflicts in Rakhine State

1. President Office has already issued Annoucemnet No (1/2012) that individuals and organizations who were behind the incidents in Rakhine State will be exposed and legal action will be taken against them. 2. Starting from 21 to 30 October 2012, 89 people were killed, 136 wounded and 5351 houses burnt down, leaving 32231 people homeless in the renewed waves of conflicts. 3. The conflicts between the two communities showed signs of evolving into an armed violence, even threatening security

forces. A total of 180 percussion lock firearms were seized in the violent incidents. Besides, actions are being taken against some arms-markers and evidences used in making arms were seized.

4. It is found that organization on the other side well prepared their activities with organized arrangements using local-made arms to commit mob threats, terrorist attacks and violence and arson attacks. It is obvious that

not only political parties and organizations that made peace with the government but also some local and foreign organizations that are on the side of the other organization involved in the incidents.

5. In addressing the conflicts in a peaceful way, it is required to be wise enough to take measures that benefit both sides in accordance with the law. With regard to the recent incidents, all monks and people are urged to join hand

with the aim of preventing the image of the State from being tarnished so that the nation can stand tall among the world nations.

6. It is announced that now is the time when the government is taking actions against those who are involved in conflicts and individuals and organizations who are behind the scene so that such kinds of incidents with the devastating impacts on lives and property of the people not occur again.

Mobile military medical specialists teams provide health care services to locals in Chin State

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— With the aim of promoting the living standards of national races in fur-flung areas, five mobile military medical specialists teams and two medical teams in cooperation with state government provided health care services to local people starting from 29 October.

On 29 October, the mobile medical teams gave medical treatment to 82 locals from Vanthu village and nearby villages of Mindat Township, 100 from nearby villages of Kanpetlet Township and 174 from Gangaw Township.

They also provided 17 locals from villages in Reed sub-township, 173 from villages in Thantlang sub-township, 269 villages in Matupi Township and 113 from villages in Mindat Township, 207 from villages



Specialists from mobile military medical teams providing health care services to local people.—MNA

in Kanpetlet, 40 from villages in Kalay Township and 65 from villages in Gangaw the following day. During their

field trip, six patients were sent to military hospital in Kalay.

MNA



Specialists from mobile military medical teams performing medical treatment at a people.
MNA

Union Mines Minister inspects mineral salt workshop

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung paid an inspection tour of the mineral salt workshop of the Myanma Salt and Marine

Chemicals Enterprise in Thakayta Township in Yangon on 28 October, where he viewed progress of repairs of equipment, storage of raw materials

for production of mineral salt.

He inspected work process and storage of productions at the copper workshop of No. 1 Mining Enterprise in Botahtaung Township.

MNA

Union Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Algerian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 NOV—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mourad Medelci, Minister of Foreign

Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2012.—MNA

Swords, bayonets and arms to be handed over to nearby security forces within three days

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct—A series of new conflicts broke out in some townships in Rakhine State as of 21 October. In the incidents, both sides set fire to houses and have suffered casualties. Myanmar Police Force and security forces

take security measures there in cooperation with local authority and townsenders. It is found that saboteurs are attempting to commit destructive acts so as to undermine the rule of law and peace and stability while the government is speeding up peace and stability and rehabilitation for returning to normal. In some townships, groups are attempting to commit robbery and riots with the use of swords, bayonets and percussion lock firearms. It can undermine peace and stability, and the conflict would get worse.

Rakhine State Police Force is arresting those who break laws and commit human rights violation. And legal actions are being taken against them.

To solve the conflicts, authorities concerned announced that all guns, bayonets, swords, daggers, spears, bow and arrow, arms and things related arms defined in the section 4 (d) of the Arms Act (1878) are to be handed over to the nearby police stations and security forces as quickly as possible as of 3 November, 2012. Legal actions will be taken against those who are found holding these arms from the said day onwards.

MNA

News in Brief

Maintenance of roads, bridges stressed

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint met construction teams, district and township engineers and staff who are building roads and

bridges in Taninthayi Region at the hall of Superintending Engineer on 27 October. He stressed for maintenance of roads and bridges.

Future of Inland Water Transport discussed

Inland Water Transport held the meeting on tasks to be done in future at Ahlon Dockyard on 28 October. Union Minister

for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung stressed the need for realization of Public, Private and Partnership (PPP) system.

MHAA to hold leading committee meeting 9 Dec

Myanmar Health Assistant Association will hold 10th Leading Committee Meeting 2012 at the hall of University of Nursing in Yangon on 9 December morning.

Members of the Leading Committee are invited to attend the meeting and to report at the association office in Aung San, not later than 5 pm on 8 December.

WORLD

Race is tied, but most think

US Obama will win

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct— The US presidential race remains a dead heat one week before Election Day but most Americans think President Barack Obama will defeat Republican Mitt Romney, according to a Reuters/Ipsos daily tracking poll released on Tuesday.

Obama leads Romney among likely voters by 47 percent to 46 percent, a statistically insignificant margin, the online survey found. Neither candidate has held a clear lead since early October. But 53 percent of all registered voters predicted Obama would win the 6 November election, while only 29 percent said Romney

would be the victor. A majority also said that they expected Obama to win their state.

That reflects the opinion of many analysts and pollsters who say Obama holds a tactical advantage in the state-by-state battle to win the White House.

Because Obama starts off with a greater likely number of states' electoral votes, Romney must win a higher number of the seven to 10 states that remain truly competitive.

Obama also holds an advantage among the 22 percent who said they have already cast their ballots. Some 55 percent of this



US President Barack Obama

group said they had voted for Obama, while 40 percent said they had voted for Romney.

The four-day poll was not affected in a significant way by Hurricane Sandy because only a small fraction of the 3,293 interviews were completed after the storm hit on Monday afternoon, Ipsos pollster Julia Clark

said. Some other polls have suspended their activity due to the storm.

The accuracy of Reuters/Ipsos polling is calculated using a credibility interval. In this survey, the credibility interval is 3.4 percentage points for likely voters and 2.9 percentage points for all registered voters.—Reuters

Scotland keen to promote conversation with China

Scotland

EDINBURGH, 31 Oct— Scottish Minister for Learning, Science and Scotland's Language Alasdair Allan on Tuesday highlighted the importance of Scottish links with China to promote mutual understanding and friendship.

Allan made the remarks at a reception at the Scottish Parliament held here for the two-week "Scotland in Conversation with China" under the theme of "Defining Scotland's Distinctive Identity in an Era of Globalization The Chinese Perspective". He noted it was very important for Scotland to expand links with China in an era of globalization, and that education was a key element of bilateral exchanges.

Graeme Pearson, Convener of The Scottish Parliament's Cross-Party Group on China (CPG) expressed the Group's keenness to seek to promote relations between Scotland and China, not only in recognition of the crucial importance of China as an economic power, but also its

role as a cultural force.

For his part, Li Ruiyou, Chinese Consul General in Edinburgh, briefed on China's development to build a harmonious society, stressing the necessity for China to enhance exchanges and build up friendship with Scotland, a land of innovation and natural heritages.

Judith McClure, Convener of Scotland China Education Network who initiated the event, also emphasized the importance to promote exchanges between the young generations in Scotland and in China.

"The quality of Scottish education is internationally recognized and the school teachers are changing the student assessment models to encourage personality and innovation," she told Xinhua.

Mark Boyce, Head of China Team at Scottish government's Directorate for International and Constitution International Division, agreed that the event was beneficial to promote people-to-people exchanges between the two sides.—Xinhua

Sr official urges strengthened judicial administration



Zhou Yongkang (front, R), a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and secretary of the Committee of Political and Legislative Affairs of the CPC Central Committee, shakes hands with staff of All China Lawyers Association in Beijing, capital of China, on 30 Oct, 2012. Zhou inspected the judicial administrative work in Beijing on Tuesday.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 31 Oct— Senior Chinese official Zhou Yongkang on Tuesday urged lawyers and other judicial administrative system staff to better safeguard people's legitimate rights and interests and promote social harmony.

Zhou, a Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, made the remarks while inspecting judicial administration work

in Beijing.

While visiting Dacheng Law Offices, Zhou called on lawyers across the country to improve their professional abilities and actively participate in public welfare undertakings such as legal assistance and law publicity so as to provide better legal services to the people and further polish the image of lawyers.

Dacheng Law Offices was founded in 1992. With more than 3,100 employees and 47 legal service agencies around the world, it has become one of Asia's biggest law offices.

With the deepening implementation of China's "go global" strategy, law offices like Dacheng shoulder more responsibilities in safeguarding China's rights and interests overseas according to law, said Zhou, also secretary of the CPC Central Commission for Political and Legal Affairs.

He also encouraged Dacheng to strive to build

itself into a world-class brand.

Zhou also visited the All-China Lawyers Association and the Ministry of Justice. He urged the association to reinforce the supervision over the lawyers' practice and train lawyer teams with firm political stance and proficient law knowledge.

Remarkable progress has been made in various sectors including prison management, meditation among the people, community-based rectification, said Zhou at a meeting held after the inspection. The judicial administrative bodies at all levels should learn the spirits to be delivered at the upcoming CPC National Congress, Zhou noted.

Zhou urged the judicial administrative system to deepen the implementation of the principle of "rule of law," and provide stronger legal support for China's building of a well-off society in all respects.—Xinhua

China

Italian President asks Monti to stay in office, calls for new electoral law

Italy

ROME, 31 Oct — Italian President Giorgio Napolitano on Tuesday called on the emergency technocrat cabinet of Prime Minister Mario Monti to stay in office until a new political government was elected in the next spring.

Napolitano also urged lawmakers to agree on a new electoral law to replace the current rules, widely criticized for distancing politicians from voters who in fact cannot choose their favorite candidates as party leaders have the power to name representatives on blocked lists.

Meanwhile, former premier Silvio Berlusconi threatened on Saturday to end his People of Freedom (PdL) party's support for Monti's government and provoke a snap election. But according to local analysts, Napolitano, who appointed Monti to succeed Berlusconi last November on the edge of a dramatic debt crisis, will keep watch on the technocratic cabinet, which has succeeded in bringing down borrowing costs by pushing through a series of budget measures.

"Berlusconi party's



Italy Prime Minister Mario Monti

lawmakers know well that in case the Monti government collapses, they would lose their place in parliament," Gianfranco Pasquino, a politician and political science professor at Bologna University, told Xinhua.

"I am sure the present government will last until April, which is Napolitano's will. Though Monti has to deal with totally untrustworthy politicians, he is supported by a president who is very reliable and resolute," he said.

Speaking of Sicily's polls, the professor noted they clearly showed the increased dissatisfaction of Italians with the political class, which has been hit by an escalation of corruption scandals across its entire spectrum.—Xinhua

Turkey

EU will lose Turkey if it hasn't joined by 2023

ISTANBUL, 31 Oct—The European Union will lose Turkey if it doesn't grant it membership by 2023, Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan said on Tuesday.

It was the first time Erdogan has given an indication of how long Ankara might continue down the path towards EU entry, and his comments came at a time of growing alienation between Turkey and a political entity it feels has cold-shouldered it.

Turkey's bid to join the EU, officially launched in 2005, has virtually ground to a halt in recent years due to opposition from core EU members and the failure to

find a solution to the dispute over the divided island of Cyprus.

Asked during a panel discussion in Berlin on Tuesday night if Turkey would be an EU member by 2023, Erdogan answered, "they probably won't string us along that long. But if they do string us along until then the European Union will lose out, and at the very least they will lose Turkey."

Turkey will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its foundation as a republic from the ruins of the Ottoman Empire in 2023. The predominantly Muslim but secular country of some



Turkey's Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan attends the opening session of the 28th session of the COMCEC in Istanbul on 10 Oct, 2012. Reuters

74 million people would strengthen the European Union, Erdogan said.

Some 6 million Turks already live within the European Union, about 3 million of them in Germany, he said. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who Erdogan will meet on Wednesday, opposes full

EU membership and favours a privileged partnership instead, although foreign minister Guido Westerwelle supports Ankara's bid.

Speaking at the opening of Turkey's new embassy building in Berlin, Westerwelle criticized the impasse in accession talks.

Reuters

NASA rover finds Mars' soil similar to Hawaii's

Science

CAPE CANAVERAL, 31 Oct — In the first inventory of minerals on another planet, NASA's Mars rover Curiosity found soil that bears a striking resemblance to weathered, volcanic sand in Hawaii, scientists said on Tuesday.

The rover uses an X-ray imager to reveal the atomic structures of crystals in the Martian soil, the first time the technology, known as X-ray diffraction, has been used to analyze soil beyond Earth.

"This was a 22-year journey and a magical moment for me," NASA's David Blake, lead scientist for the rover's mineralogical instrument, told reporters during a conference call.

Curiosity found the Martian sand grains have crystals similar to basaltic soils found in volcanic regions on Earth, like Hawaii.

Scientists plan to use the information about Mars' minerals to figure out if the planet most like Earth in the solar system could have supported and preserved microbial life.

"The mineralogy of Mars' soil has been a source

of conjecture until now," said Curiosity scientist David Vaniman of the Planetary Science Institute in Tucson, Arizona.

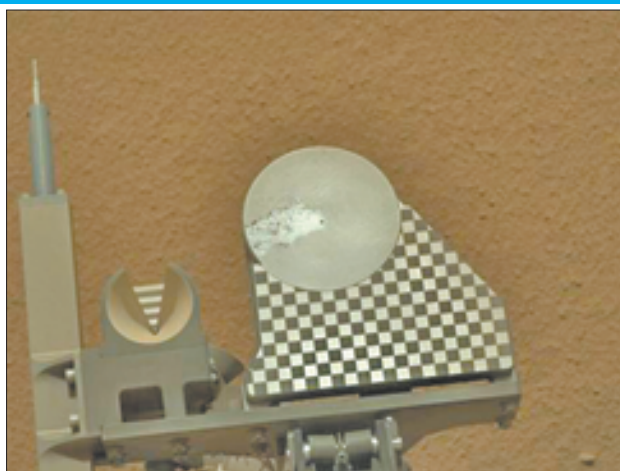
"This interest isn't just academic," he added. "Soils on planets' surfaces are a reflection of surface exposure processes and history, with information on present and past climates."

Specifically, scientists want to understand what conditions existed to allow the particular minerals to form. The first Martian soil scoop is mineralogically similar to basaltic materials and comprised primarily of feldspar, pyroxene and olivine.

About half the soil is non-crystalline materials, like volcanic glass, that form from the breakdown of rocks.

Several processes can account for this weathering, including interaction with water or oxygen, similar to how rust forms on iron-metal surfaces.

Brute force, such as sandstorms or meteorite impacts, also could account for the soil's weathered components, said chemist



A sample of Martian soil delivered by the robotic arm of NASA's Mars rover Curiosity to the rover's observation tray for the first time is pictured in this on 16 Oct, 2012 NASA handout photo obtained by Reuters on 20 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Douglas Ming of NASA's Johnson Space Centre in Houston.

The Curiosity rover landed inside a giant impact crater near the Martian equator in August for a two-year, \$2.5-billion mission, NASA's first astrobiology expedition since the 1970s-era Viking probes.

The rover is scouting a site where three types of rock intersect. Next year, scientists plan to drive it over to a three-mile (5-km) mound of sediment, named Mount Sharp, rising from the floor of the crater.

"We're hopeful that once we get into the truly ancient materials on Mount Sharp, we will find miner-

als that suggest there was a habitable environment of some kind there. We haven't had that happen yet, but we have a lot of time left," Blake said.

While X-ray diffraction has been around for a century, using the technology on Mars required years of work to scale down refrigerator-sized equipment into something that would fit into the space of a shoe box.

The miniaturized, low-power instrument is used in the mining, oil and gas industries and is being evaluated by the US Food and Drug Administration to screen for counterfeit pharmaceuticals.

Reuters

Fireflies provide flash of inspiration for cheaper LED lamps

Technology

HONG KONG, 31 Oct — South Korean scientists have copied the structure of a firefly's underbelly to create what they say is an improved and cheaper LED lens that they hope will one day be used in smartphones, televisions and other devices.

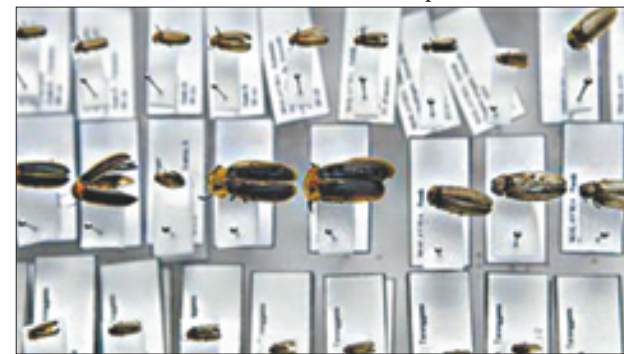
In a paper published on Tuesday in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* journal, the scientists described how they were inspired by the firefly, a bright and efficient source of natural light.

"We made a new LED lens (copying) the nanostructure of the firefly lantern," said lead author Ki-Hun Jeong, associate professor at the Korea Advanced Institute

of Science of Technology's department of bio and brain engineering. By copying the structure of the firefly's three-layered lower abdomen, Jeong and colleagues managed to do away with an expensive component in existing LED (light-emitting diode) lamps.

Fireflies produce light from the lower abdomen to attract mates and prey.

"By having this structure, it is comparable to the conventional anti-reflection coating of existing LED lights which is very expensive," Jeong said. "Our lens has a curvature, which is very similar to the anti-reflection coating, so we can minimise the lens price."—Reuters



Specimens of different species of fireflies are displayed at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in Kuala Lumpur on 23 July, 2010.—REUTERS

Panasonic may curb solar panel, lithium battery expansion

TOKYO, 31 Oct — Electronics conglomerate Panasonic Corp may curtail its expanded production of solar panels and small lithium batteries used in PCs and other devices as part of new round of restructuring, two sources at the company told Reuters.

Panasonic recently built a solar panel plant in Malaysia for 45 billion yen (\$564 million), upping capacity by one-third to 900 megawatts. Plans to further ramp up production to 1.5 gigawatts may be scaled back, however, because of weak demand, particularly in Europe, the sources said on condition they were not identified.

Panasonic's new president, Kazuhiro Tsuga, has promised a new revival plan for the Japanese company by the end of the current business year next 31 March. He has said he will weed out loss-making or low-profitability units.

The firm's business in small lithium batteries has been hurt by price competition from Korean and Chinese competitors.

Falling into the red last year, it was aiming to return to profit this year by shifting production to China, where costs are lower, but may post a loss instead, the sources said.

As a result of the squeeze on expanded out-

put of solar panels and batteries, Panasonic's energy unit may struggle to reach a target of raising sales to more than 1 trillion yen, or 10 percent of overall sales, and operating margin to at least 10 percent by March 2016, the sources said.

The unit retains 202 billion yen of goodwill following the acquisition of Sanyo in 2010. Analysts estimate that two-thirds of that is related to solar panels and small lithium batteries. Shares of Panasonic, which releases its results on Wednesday for the quarter ended September 30, rose 3 percent in morning trading in Tokyo to 507 yen. (\$1 = 79.8150 Japanese yen)

Reuters



People visit Panasonic Corp's booth at CEATEC JAPAN 2012 electronics show in Chiba, east of Tokyo, on 2 Oct, 2012. REUTERS

Technology

Google unveils first 10-inch Nexus tablet

SAN FRANCISCO, 31 Oct — Google Inc unveiled a larger version of its Nexus-branded tablet computer on Monday, and updated its mobile gadget and online content offerings as competition with Apple Inc,



The Google logo is seen as Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt speaks at a promotional event for the Nexus 7 tablet in Seoul on 27 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

Amazon.com Inc and Microsoft Corp heats up ahead of the holiday sales season.

The device follows a spate of new product launches by the technology leaders in recent weeks, including Apple's iPad Mini last week and software-maker Microsoft's first-ever home-built tablet, the Surface.

Google, the world's No1 Internet search engine, has pushed deeper into the hardware business at a time when consumers are increasingly accessing the

Web on mobile devices.

Google's new Nexus 10, made in partnership with consumer electronics company Samsung Electronics Co, is the first 10-inch tablet to come to market under Google's

Nexus brand. The device, with prices starting at \$299, will be available on 13 November in the United States and seven other countries, Google said in its official blog on Monday.

Google was scheduled to introduce the device at a media event in New York on Monday, but was forced to cancel because of Hurricane Sandy.

Google also said it was expanding its online movie and music retail businesses to several countries in Europe.

Google also unveiled a new Nexus 4 smartphone, made in partnership with LG Electronics, that features a quad-core processor and a 4.7-inch display.—Reuters

And the company introduced an improvement to its online-music storage service. The new "matching" feature scans songs in a consumer's music collection and automatically creates an online or "cloud-based" library of the same tracks which consumers can access from any device or computer.

Google said the music matching feature, which only works with tracks that are part of the Google Play store's music catalog, will be available in Europe on 13 November and in the United States soon after.

Google also updated its smaller, Nexus 7 tablet released earlier this year. It increased the storage on the \$199 version of the device to 16GB from 8GB, and introduced a new \$299 version of the Nexus 7 with a cellular data service option.

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Citigroup says prepared for trading after power outages

Business

NEW YORK, 31 Oct—Citigroup Inc (CN) said it was ready for markets to re-open on Wednesday despite power outages in the waterside neighborhood where it is located and flood damage in a building where its investment bankers work.

“We are prepared for the re-opening of the markets, and will utilize our back-up locations to ensure continuity of operations until our staff can return to our Lower Manhattan offices,” the company said in a statement on Tuesday afternoon.

Earlier in the day, the company said that its building with trading floors at 390 Greenwich Street, which is a short distance north of

next two days, the memo said. It is also used by Citigroup’s transaction services unit, which caters to corporations and governments around the world.

The memo said damage assessments were continuing.

A building at 111 Wall Street, which is the bank’s third major facility in downtown Manhattan and is used by some of the company’s back-office processing and human resources staff, had severe flooding and will be out of commission for several weeks, according to another staff memo sent later on Tuesday.

Citigroup has a back-up trading floor in New Jersey that it planned to use as of Sunday, two sources at the bank said on Sunday.



A Citi sign is seen at the Citigroup stall on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 16 Oct, 2012. REUTERS

the World Trade Centre site, was running on power from a generator and was expected to be accessible in the next two days. An adjacent skyscraper, where investment bankers work, sustained minor flooding from Hurricane Sandy and had no power, according to a Tuesday memo to employees that was seen by Reuters.

That building is also expected to be accessible in the

Global investment banks generally have large trading desks in Europe and Asia that can help carry work loads for one another. Bank branches were still closed in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Delaware, according to the memo. The bank said it was trying to open branches in Washington, DC, Virginia, Maryland and Massachusetts on Tuesday afternoon. —Reuters

Hitachi to buy British nuclear Horizon project

Business

TOKYO, 31 Oct—Hitachi Ltd (6501.T), Japan’s largest industrial electronics maker, said on Tuesday it had agreed to buy British nuclear project Horizon. Hitachi did not disclose the value of the deal.

Horizon, which plans to build 6 gigawatts (GW) of nuclear capacity, was put up for sale by its owners, German utilities E.ON (EONGn.DE) and RWE (RWEg.DE), in March, as Germany’s decision to pull out of nuclear power hurt their finances.

Hitachi, which earns just under 10 percent of its overall sales from its power systems segment, formally

agreed on the purchase at a board meeting on Tuesday, following reports over the

weekend it was near the deal for the nuclear project. REUTERS



A man walks past Hitachi’s booth at CEATEC JAPAN 2012 electronics show in Chiba, east of Tokyo, on 2 Oct, 2012. REUTERS

StanChart profit up; India weakness weighs

Business

HONG KONG, 31 Oct—Asia-focused bank Standard Chartered Plc (STAN.L) said its operating profit grew by a mid-single digit rate in the first nine months of the year, keeping it on track for a 10th straight year of record earnings.

Earnings, though, would have risen by at least 10 percent but for a \$340 million settlement paid to New York regulators who threatened to strip the bank of its state licence over allegations it hid some \$250 billion worth of transactions with Iran.

“Although the environment remains turbulent, we are in the right markets and continue to see good momentum across our businesses and geographies,” CEO Peter Sands wrote in a third-quarter trading update on Tuesday.

The bank’s forecast is roughly in line with full-year expectations for a 6 percent rise in pretax profit to about \$7.2 billion, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. It does not release specific numbers in its quarterly updates. First-half pretax profit and income both

increased by around 9 percent, the bank said in August.

Hong Kong, China, Indonesia and Europe delivered a strong performance, the bank said, without elaborating. It also managed to keep costs under control, with expenses rising roughly in line with revenue — a trend known as “neutral jaws”. Standard Chartered was bogged down by rising costs in much of 2010 and 2011 as it expanded across Asia.

The bank is one of few still expanding its headcount, which totalled about 85,000 at end-June. In August, the bank said it planned to add 1,500 staff in the second half. Major European peers, in contrast, are pruning staff numbers.

Swiss bank UBS announced on Tuesday it was winding down its fixed income business and axing 10,000 bankers, one of the biggest industry lay-offs since Lehman Brothers imploded in 2008. And Germany’s flagship lender Deutsche Bank (DBKGn.DE), reporting third-quarter



Employees of Standard Chartered leave a branch of the bank in central Seoul on 9 Aug, 2012. —REUTERS

pretax profit of 1.1 billion euros, has said it expects to axe more than the 1,900 positions already announced, mainly in investment banking.

Weighing on Standard Chartered’s earnings was weakness in India, Singapore’s wholesale banking and South Korea’s consumer banking, it said.

Rising household debt in South Korea — which now exceeds that of the United States before the subprime mortgage crisis — has prompted worries the country may soon see

a spike in bad loans. In Singapore, the city-state narrowly escaped a recession in the third quarter.

“You can’t fight gravity,” said Jim Antos, an analyst at Mizuho Securities in Hong Kong. “Let’s face it. The global economy isn’t getting better, so that’s going to have an impact on earnings.”

Antos said he expects analysts to revise down Standard Chartered’s full-year earnings forecast by another 5-10 percent, given the external headwinds. REUTERS

298 mln more rural Chinese to have safe drinking water by 2015

BEIJING, 31 Oct—About 298 million more rural residents in China are hopefully to have access to safe drinking water by 2015, according to a water resources official on Monday.

Resolving the drinking water safety problem for these rural residents and 114,000 schools in the countryside by 2015 has been listed as one of the government’s priority projects, said Yan Guanyu, deputy director of the China Irrigation and Drainage Development Centre under the Ministry of Water Resources.

A total of 196 million of the 298 million rural residents who do not have access to adequate and safe drinking water were newly added in recently years due to diminishing sources of safe water, worsening water pollution, rundown and under-qualified water facilities and the adoption of new and stricter drinking water standards, Yan said. China will invest 175 billion yuan (27.8 billion US dollars) by 2015 to ensure supplies of safe drinking water in rural areas, according to a report delivered

in June this year by Vice Minister of Water Resources Li Guoying to a session of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee, China’s top legislature. Over the past decade, China has spent 178.6

billion yuan on building drinking water projects across the countryside, benefiting 326 million rural residents, according to data from the Ministry of Water Resources. —Xinhua



Health

Malaysian researchers cautioned in stem cell research, therapy

Health

KUALA LUMPUR, 31 Oct—Malaysian scientists and clinicians should be responsible in stem cell research and ensure the safety of the related treatment, a senior government official said on Monday.

Despite the promising future of stem cell research and treatment, scientific evidence is necessary before the therapies or medicine are put into clinical use, said Malaysian Health Minister Liow Tiong Lai.

Speaking at the country’s first national stem cell congress, Liow said while stem cells have brought hopes for those suffered from

diseases that were deemed incurable in the past, many challenges and setbacks lie ahead.

“The ethical challenges facing embryonic stem research have been almost exhaustively discussed over the past decade and many countries have developed their own guidelines or even passed parliamentary acts to regulate stem cell research.”

In the case of Malaysia, Liow said the Health Ministry had set up a committee to oversee stem cell research in the country.

Meanwhile, officials stressed that embryo

cloning is strictly prohibited in Malaysia, as many other countries in the world. But Liow said his ministry so far has no interest in pushing for a stem cell act.

According to the statistics of the Health Ministry, currently there are 11 hemopoietic transplant centres performing hemopoietic stem cell transplants in Malaysia, and 213 such transplants were performed and registered in 2009. Local universities and institutions have also been participating in stem cell research. Xinhua

Dancing elephant festival in Kyaukse

KYAUKSE, 31 Oct — The opening of dancing elephant festival took place on a grand scale yesterday with the participation of 68 groups. The festival is annually held at Shwethalyaung Pagoda in Kyaukse since the time of King Anawrahta in Bagan era. Although the cost of taking part in the elephant dancing contest is high, contestants never fail to participate in the event with the aim of

preserving the tradition. Some dancing elephant troupes only performed entertainment. All dancing elephant troupes entertained the public with their skills whatever, circling around Kyaukse Myoma market three times. The festive compound at the foot of the pagoda was packed with audience from nearby towns and villages from dawn to dusk.

This year's competitions,

first prize went to Myo Hset Thit dancing elephant troupe, second to Myinsai Zarni and third to Padauk Myaing in the traditional dancing elephant event. Prize-winning troupes of other events were also awarded. In the morning of the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, pilgrims took part in alms and gold and silver elephant toys-offering ceremony at the pagoda.

Kyemon



Natural forests in arid zone in need of conservation

MONYWA, 31 Oct — According to the statement issued by Arid Zone Greening Department (Upper Myanmar), the delay in taking care of natural forests remaining in the arid zone will make this area desertification. Great care should be taken to conserve the remaining natural forests. 19.7 per cent of the total

there are reserved forests, protected public forests and forest lands. Farmland reclamation, farming and extension of pastures lead to de-forestation.

In its drive for conservation of natural forests, the department set criteria that out of an area of 1.8 million acres, natural forests in forest lands and

with a variety of plants and animals and natural forests with cultural heritages and ancient artifacts will be on the list of priorities. Cutting wood, excessive farming and forest fire caused by humans are major causes of deforestation. An official of the department said that conservation of natural forests in arid zone required public awareness of forest conservation and legal actions. — *Kyemon*



area of Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions are covered in forests. Deforestation is occurring in the low-lying area where

reserved forests, natural forests with 300 trees and above per acre, natural forests needed for protection against soil erosion, natural forests

Stimulant tablets seized

THATON, 31 Oct — Police officers of Thaton District Police Station seized six tablets from Myo Tun Naing (32 years) of Nannkhe Ward in Thaton, Mon State at 1 pm on 25 November while conducting a search of his body after stopping him from driving motorbike. As the investigations revealed that he bought these tablets from Thiha (32 years) of

Auckkyi ward in Thaton, the police officers had carried out a search of Thiha's home. No tablets were found in his home, but his mobile phone in which there was a phone connection between Myo Tun Naing and Thiha was confiscated.

With regard to the incident, Thaton Police Station filed a lawsuit against them. — *Kyemon*

Python mysteriously arrives at Sagaing Mahazigon Pagoda

SAGAING, 31 Oct — A python with a length of nine feet and a girth of 10 inches appeared on the stairs of east arch at historic Mahazigon pagoda in Parami Ward of Sagaing at about 8.3 pm on 28 October. Crowds thronged the Pagoda to see the python.

People were amazed by its presence at the pagoda which was packed with pilgrims. The board of trustees of the pagoda is looking after the python which had mysteriously appeared. — *Kyemon*



Taxi doing good deeds on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut

YANGON, 31 Oct — A taxi carrying banners on the front and rear windscreen



that read: "Members of Sangha Only" and flying a Sasana flag on its roof gave monks and nuns free transport service on the

Fullmoon day of Thadingyut. "We offer free transport service to monks and nuns daily. Four of us have to save K 500 a day to be able to do such kind of good deeds. While we had saved K 30000 so far, one of four taxis provides monks and nuns with free transport service. On religious days, free transport service runs on the whole day", U Thein Lwin Tun, one of the group of four taxi drivers.

Kyemon

Globe trotters to flock to Myanmar in 2013

YANGON, 31 Oct — In his speech at an opening ceremony of eco-tourism course, the Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism said that it was expected that tourist arrivals in 2013 would be more than 900,000. "The

prediction seems to have true. It may be more than expected number. If the tourist arrivals meet the expected number, there will be 1.4 million of tourists in 2014. It is sure to be so if there is an increase of 15 per cent in tourist arrivals

yearly," he said.

Myanmar is a largest country in Southeast Asia after Indonesia. Myanmar has tourist attractions in vast numbers. Myanmar has the advantages of its culture, devotions and hospitality in its tourist industry. With regard to the services, "It must be considered to provide

the visitors with good service added with good image. It is time to work together with the sense of cooperation," he added. Now, airlines that once stopped are going to resume their flights, and arrangements are being made to be extended by airlines in the market.

Kyemon



LOCAL NEWS

Doegale oil field generates job opportunities for local people

KALAY, 31 Oct—Since a few months, crude oil has been produced in Natgyigon Village of Kalay Township, Kalay District in Sagaing Region.

Maung Win Htaik Aung from Natgyigon Village, a worker from oil well, said, “The oil well is called Doegale, 13 miles from Kalay-Kalewa road. The local people can walk to the well about three miles. In the open season, the people have access to the well by motorcycle.”

“About 1500 workers are engaged in oil well industry. Most of the workers come from surrounding

villages of the well. Some of them come from Kalay, Tamu and Gangaw townships. Their labour charge is fixed at K 70,000 per month in addition to other expenses. Thus, the local people earn increased income. There are 500 oil wells in the region each of which produces from 20 barrels to 25 barrels per day. In the past, the wells pumped out 15-20 barrels of crude oil daily, he added.

Red Star Co buys crude oil from all the wells. The local people earn K 20000 per barrel of crude oil for transport charge from the well to the company.

Myanma Alinn

Former matron secures Princess Srinagarindra Award



YANGON, 31 Oct—A ceremony to present Princess Srinagarindra Award by Princess Srinagarindra Award Foundation of Thailand was held at the hall of the Presidential Palace of Thailand at 4 pm local standard time on 22 October.

Retired Matron of Myanmar retired Chairperson of Myanmar Nursing and Midwifery Association Daw

People’s Square and People’s Park thronged with holiday-makers

YANGON, 31 Oct—The People’s Square and the People’s Park is crowded with visitors and holiday-makers in the lighting festival period of Thadingyut.

An official said, “As of 27 October, the square is packed with larger number

E Barbaro won the award. In commemoration of the centennial birthday of the HRH the late Prince Srinagarindra Mahidol, mother of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the award is conferred on the winner.

In the 13th awarding ceremony, HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn presented the award to Daw E Barbaro.—*Myanma Alinn*

of visitors and vehicles. Over 20,000 people in average visited there daily.”

The People’s Park is renovated into a modern playground. In addition, the water fountain garden has been opened, he said.

Myanma Alinn



Nay Pyi Taw dwellers have access to entire nation



NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct—Modern express buses run along respective routes daily for enabling the service personnel and local people of eight townships in Nay Pyi Taw to have easy access to various regions of the nation from Bawga Thiri Highway Bus Terminal.

Express buses from over 40 Nay Pyi Taw-based bus lines give transport services to passengers to regions and states on time.

Over 300 express buses are on their runs day and night to Yangon,

Mandalay, Monywa, Lashio, Pyin Oo Lwin, Pyay, Magway, Hpa-an, Mawlamyine, Pakokku, Patheingyi, Salin, Chauk, Seikpyu, Nyaung U, Taunggyi, Yaksawk, Myingyan, Mon State, Taungtha and Loikaw.

Local bus lines such as Tay Win and Nay Pyi Taw bus line run along the routes to eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Tatkon, Zoological Garden, Myoma Market, Water Fountain Garden, Taungnyo, Lewe, Paunglaung, Uppatasanti Pagoda, National Landmarks

Park and highway bus terminal daily.

Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee allots 210 apartments from 42 five-apartment brokerages, 96 apartments from eight-apartment bus gates, 36 apartments of six-apartment canteens and 56 car workshops and 10 servicing workshops at Bawgathiri Bus Terminal.

Thus, the highway express buses are giving transport services to the people across the nation.

Myanma Alinn

Pilgrimage car to Zalun, express bus head on collision

HINTHADA, 31 Oct—A white light truck of pilgrimage driven by Aung Ko Ko, 45, son of U Maung Kyaw from Hinthada to Zalun and an express bus from Miba Myitta transport service driven by Zaw Myo Aung (a) Zaw Gyi, 33, son of U Ohn Lwin from

Yangon to Hinthada headed in a collision between mile post 13/5 and 13/4 near the public rest house not far from Kyonton Village of Zalun Township on 11.30 am on 27 October.

In the incident, a total of 10 passengers from both

vehicles died on the spot and nine were wounded.

Zalun Township Police Station took action against driver Zaw Myo Aung (a) Zaw Gyi, 33 of Kyontani Village of Danubyu Township from the express bus under the law.

Myanma Alinn

Maha Bandoola Park under upgrading task



YANGON, 31 Oct—The worksite is so many differences from the past events. The workers young and old are focusing on their works here and there. They did their works in the past. But, now they make greater efforts.

Some of them are working at substitution of old electric cables with new ones and at extending the motor way with the use of heavy machinery.

The worksites are located in Tamway Township and others in construction of car parks in Pazundaung and Botahtaung townships so as to solve the problems of traffic jams.

At present, Maha Bandoola Park in Kyauktada Township is being upgraded by Parks and Playgrounds Department of Yangon City Development Committee. The canteens and shops on the east wing of the park have

been closed. Now, landscape and flowery plants are being grown as beauty scene.

Pedestrian ways from the north to the south and from the east to the west are under construction with greening grass at the centre of Independence monument. Necessary equipment for

playgrounds has been facilitated in the southern part of the park. Fencing works are also being undertaken on 24 October.

The park is kept open from 5.30 am to 5.30 pm daily. Collection of entrance fee is assigned to a private company. The entrance fee

Talks on job opportunities on 4 Nov

MANDALAY, 31 Oct—Nowadays, Myanmar is gathering development momentum for keeping itself abreast of other countries. A talk on ethic, attitude, labour contract and importance of clearance letter between employers and employees will be given at Shwebyu Plaza in Mandalay on 4 November.

Employers, staff, subject-wise experts and job hunters will participate in the discussions with 23 tops, according to Job Camp Organizer Team & MCPA and MCIA.—*Myanma Alinn*

UMFCCI talks on 30 Oct

YANGON, 31 Oct—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry organizes the monthly talks with a view to developing human resources and disseminating information on private sectors.

At 2pm on 30 November, the UMFCCI will give the talk on The Rule of Law (or) Supremacy of Law lectured by Dr Salai Ngun Kyon Lyan Andrew on the first floor of UMFCCI Office Tower on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township.

Interested persons may attend the talks.

Myanma Alinn

is fixed at K 100 per child, K 300 per adult and K 500 per foreigner.

An astrologer expressed his opinion, “Due to fixing entrance fee, needy persons and students will not be affordable to take relaxation at the park.”

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 1 November, 2012

Exercise prudence in balancing exploitation and conservation of environment

As reforms of the new government in office have gone some distance, huge foreign investments are in prospect in Myanmar whose natural resources and strategic position is an advantage.

As a developing country, we have to make better use of our natural resources in pursuit of economic growth. But, sustainable economy is a question of striking a balance between exploitation and conservation of the environment, for it can be in dire straits. Foreign investments are most likely in the energy sector, which could trigger adverse effect on ecological balance.

The damage to global environment is alarming and our environment is no exception. Developing countries often face the same fate as environmental degradation usually offsets improvement resulted from economic prosperity.

Development and environment are complementary and not antagonistic terms, and we need to largely focus on effectiveness rather than numbers since addressing the climate change is a daunting mission. In this context, concerted efforts show many signs of efficiency but still not strong enough to go without help from the government.

It is high time we must be more serious about environmental conservation, enhancing efficiency of the employees of the relevant ministries and the people on the effective utilization of natural resources and exercising prudence in balancing exploitation and conservation of the environment, while embarking on national development tasks with economic development in the fore front.

I did nothing wrong, baby, but, just bet all our wealth on each game week of the Premier League.



Bahan Aye Min

Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister attends 4th IAI Development Cooperation Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— The Myanmar delegation led by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw arrived back by air yesterday afternoon after attending the 4th IAI Development Cooperation

Forum on 29 October 2012 held at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The forum was attended by Secretary General of ASEAN Dr Surin Pitsuwan, Ambassador from the

Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR), Ambassadors from Dialogue Partner Countries, Representatives from the Development Partners and Regional and International Institutes.

NATIONAL

Vice-President U Nyan Tun meets Indonesian delegation



Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Prof. Dr. Ir. Budi Susilo Soepandji, Head of National Defence University of the Republic of Indonesia.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct — Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun received an Indonesian delegation led by Prof. Dr. Ir. Budi Susilo Soepandji, Head of National Defence University of the

Republic of Indonesia, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

The Vice-President was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Defence Commodore Aung Thaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign

Affairs U Thant Kyaw and officials. Together with the Indonesian delegation led by the head of National Defence University of the Republic of Indonesia was Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono.

The meeting focused on strengthening existing friendly relations between the two countries and further cooperation with the National Defence University of Indonesia on mutual basis.

MNA

Mines should not upset ecological balance: Union Mines Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— “It is important in developing mining industry that mines do not upset the ecological balance while abandoned mines rehabilitation, mines risk management and afforestation are a must,” stressed Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung.

The Union Minister as he addressed the Seminar on Sustainable Development and Mines Pollution Control, the first seminar on mining-related environmental conservation jointly organized by Mines Ministry and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) with a view to sharing knowledge about environmental conservation and carbon offsetting measures for mining industry, at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 29 October morning,



Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung delivers an address at Sustainable Development and Mines Pollution Control Seminar.—MNA

invited investment calling for beneficial investment in line with market economy in mining industry.

The Union Minister quoting the constitution

emphasized mining industry should not affect environmental conservation works.

The Union Minister held talks with the director

of JOGMEC and party, mining industrialists from Australia and China, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua separately at Sedona Hotel.—MNA

The Deputy Minister delivered a keynote address at the opening ceremony of the forum.

The forum was held with the theme “The IAI in Review: Towards a Sustainable and Equitable ASEAN” and the representatives from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam shared their

perspectives on “Narrowing the Development Gap in ASEAN” and Way Forward on IAI.

The Deputy Foreign Minister met with the Secretary General of ASEAN Dr Surin Pitsuwan, and discussed issues relating to ASEAN integration and Development Cooperation.

The Deputy Foreign

Affairs Minister was accompanied by Daw Aye Aye Mu, Deputy Director-General, ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Dr Win Tun, Associate Professor, Statistics Department of the Yangon Institute of Economics, the Ministry of Education.

MNA

NATIONAL

Favourable investment...

(from page 16)

Favourable investment climate effectively protecting the rights of investors must be created to attract the influx of foreign investment. One of the important elements in this climate is legitimization of permanent resident system for potential investors, service providers, immigrant Myanmar and intellectuals.

Influx of technology, capital, human resources and job opportunities may flow into country by practicing PR System thereby contributing to country's development.

The country also might face the negative effects such as penetration into all sectors with planned actions by seizing opportunities conferred by the government, lots of competitions between citizens and a flood of crimes.

It needs to design control and protection system for PR system. In so doing, enactment of PR Immigration Act should be taken into consideration.

To start PR system, PR

Scrutinizing and Issuance Supervisory Committee is to be formed with delegates from responsible ministries.

It also needs to consider detailed principles in such cases as legally-validate matters, education, health, economy, social, security and defence, ownership and requirements. So, formation of commission comprising experts and holding workshops including experts from outside are to be carried out. The result is to be applied in right way.

In conclusion, collaborative efforts are to be made by other ministries in addition to Ministry of Immigration and Population for adopting a PR system principle which is a requirement for the country's development.

Afterwards, Secretary of the management committee for permanent residence system Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi briefed about initiative necessities for applicants for PR permission, necessary

documents in applying PR forms, fees for PR system, allowance of permits for PR and its extension process, chances for those with PR, facts about forbidding the issues of permission of PR, programmes for conducting those who have PR system, as well as other foreign countries' practices on the system.

Then, members of the management committee for permanent residence system Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint, Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Pwint Hsan and officials concerned also gave supplementary on necessities for practicing PR system, facts that should be amended, progress of

implementation tasks for laws laid down and rules and regulations of the relevant ministries, and related matters.

Member of the National Economy and Social Advisory Council U Thihan Myo Nyunt, senior researchers of Economy and Social Development Board Dr Ngon Kygun Hlan and Dr Tin Maung Than, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Hsat Aung gave suggestions on the PR system.

The Vice-President said, in his concluding remarks, that he was very pleased because those present shared their knowledge on the system, it needs to implement tasks for practicing the PR system as soon as possible, and urged them to concentrate on that with their own advices.

The meeting came to an end.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, departmental heads and experts.

MNA

Press Release on plans for controlling illegal trading

In attempts to provide food safety to consumers and to decrease the illegal trading, Border Trade Department of the Ministry of Commerce will post mobile teams on the main trade routes: Muse-Mandalay route and Myawady-Yangon route as from 1 November, 2012, to control the illegal trading.

The procedure and measures to be taken by the mobile teams for food safety and prevention against illegal trading have been informed to the departmental officials, one-stop services, traders, businessmen at the Yangon Region Office of the Border Trade Department and at the meeting hall of mills owners in Lashio on 28 October and at the meeting of 105-mile trade zone on 26 October and in Lashio on 29 October.

Mobile Team is led by the Border Trade Department of the Ministry of Commerce and is comprised

with representatives from the Customs Department, Myanmar Police Force, local administrative bodies and border traders association and media personnel.

Work procedure and steps for checks, and documents for export and import process that should be available at the trucks have been delivered to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and relevant border traders associations, long haul transport services and terminals.

Those wishing to know the detailed procedures of the mobile teams may contact the Director-General, Border Trade Department, Ph: 067 408405 and Deputy Director-General, Border Trade Department, Ph: 067 430201. Anyone can contact the above numbers to lodge complaints with the mobile teams.

Ministry of Commerce

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker attends 127th IPU Assembly



Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa speaking at a 127th IPU Assembly in Quebec, Canada.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa attended a 127th International Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly in Quebec, Canada.

The assembly was opened with an address by the Honourable Donald H Oliver, Speaker of the assembly, and representatives of the member countries also delivered addresses.

Speaking at the assembly, the deputy speaker said that it is the

first time for Myanmar delegation to participate in the assembly as it was accepted as the member of the IPU during the 126th assembly of the IPU in Uganda in March this year.

Myanmar people have unanimously supported the reforms carried out by the government led by President U Thein Sein, and meanwhile, the Union Parliament amended and abolished some laws as they should be done and enacted new ones, he said.

All human beings

and organizations in the global village are depending each others, and technology development has caused complications in the economic matters, triggering trans-national migration, he added.

As the citizenship plays an important role in ensuring peace and stability in a country, the task of recognizing citizens is important.

The citizenship would help not just for recognition and peaceful coexistence but also for economic matters and political processes, he said. Therefore, the stateless situation can cause unsafety threatening the peace and stability of a country, he said.

The parliament has urged the government to attend the basic human rights and conferences related to socio-economic matters and has enacted necessary laws, he said.

He assured that Myanmar would overcome any challenges thanks to the encouragement of international organizations and their cooperation.

MNA

Test-run census taking 30 March-10 April 2013

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— “Under the leadership of Ministry of Immigration and Population, test-run country-wise census will be taken from 30 March to 10 April next year,” said Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, at a briefing ceremony of test-run country-wise census taking, at Immigration and National Registration Department in Shwepyitha Township, Yangon North District, Yangon on 27 October. The Union Minister and officials replied to the queries raised by media.—MNA



Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi speaking at the briefing ceremony.—MNA

Launching of Myanmar Opium Survey 2012 Report held

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct—A Launching of the Myanmar Opium Survey 2012 Report was held at Thingaha Hotel, here, this morning with an explanation of Country Manager Mr Jason Eligh of UNODC.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun invited international organizations and aid countries to give helpful hand in cutting down of growing opium in Myanmar as well as opium-

substitution tasks.

The local media, embassy staff and UN organizations shot the questions that they want to know, especially, elimination tasks of growing opium in Myanmar.—MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

UN to remain closed for third day due to hurricane impact UN

UNITED NATIONS, 31 Oct — The United Nations said here on Tuesday that the world body's headquarters in New York will remain closed for the third day on Wednesday "due to the impact of Hurricane Sandy."

"Due to the impact of Hurricane Sandy, United Nations offices in New York will remain closed on Wednesday, 31 October 2012," said an email message from the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit of the UN Department of Public Information. "All meetings at headquarters have been canceled."

Farhan Haq, the UN associate spokesman who

was reached by *Xinhua* on the phone, also confirmed the UN closure on Wednesday.

The UN headquarters in New York was closed on Monday and Tuesday as Hurricane Sandy, a massive storm described by forecasters as one of the largest ever that hit the United States, lashed the East Coast.

UN meetings involving Latin American presidents were canceled on Monday.

The power was cut off in lower Manhattan, few blocks from the UN headquarters on the east side of the downtown area of New York City, and the city government has suspended bus and subway

operations in Manhattan.

Superstorm Sandy has killed at least 29 people and knocked millions out of power across the densely populated US east coast, leaving streets flooded, houses burned and a levee collapsed by Tuesday morning. Sandy, which made landfall in New Jersey early Monday evening and combined with winter storms to become a hybrid storm, has impacted 15 states. Sandy so

far killed at least 29 people in eight states, according to CNN report, including 15 in New York state and three in New Jersey, two of the hardest-hit area overnight. Other US media outlets put the death toll at 33 to 35.

The death toll has risen to 10 and may continue to rise in the largest city of the country, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg said on Tuesday at a press conference.—*Xinhua*

Cuban vice president visits hurricane-hit towns Cuba

HAVANA, 31 Oct — Cuban Vice President Jose Ramon Machado Ventura on Tuesday visited towns in eastern Holguin Province hard-hit by Hurricane Sandy, the deadliest storm in seven years.

Ventura assured local residents of Cueto and Mayari that it was the government's priority to restore services to their towns, the *Cuban News Agency (ACN)* said. Officials said the hurricane has decimated coffee crops in Cuba and is expected to lower this year's harvest 25 percent from last year's.

Sandy swept across Cuba's Sierra Maestra

Mountains, where 92 percent of the nation's plantations are concentrated, and battered the two largest grain-producing provinces, Santiago de Cuba and Guantanamo, damaging mills and knocking down thousands of trees.

Cuba's official newspaper *Granma* reported on Monday that some 160 tons of coffee and 4,500 hectares of coffee plantations have been damaged in Santiago de Cuba. In the second-largest coffee-making province of Guantanamo, the powerful hurricane destroyed nearly 325 tons of coffee, and seriously damaged 47 mills.

Xinhua



Indian Foreign Minister Salman Khurshid (R) holds talks with Khaleda Zia, chairwoman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, India, on 30 Oct, 2012.

XINHUA

Some train services resume along US East Coast US

NEW YORK, 31 Oct — Limited passenger train services will resume along the US East Coast on Wednesday as transportation slowly returns to normal after Hurricane Sandy, but flooding in tunnels is still blocking access to New York City, Amtrak said on Tuesday.

Services provided by rail company Amtrak along the busy Northeast corridor were suspended on Monday as the storm hit the eastern United States, flooding tracks and roads, felling trees and power lines.

Amtrak said it would provide modified Northeast regional services south from Newark in New Jersey from Wednesday.

Routes would include a Virginia service, trains between Harrisburg and Philadelphia, and services between Boston, Portland and Maine.

There will still be no service between New York and Boston and no Acela Express service for the length of the Northeast Corridor.

Amtrak said that, along with other tunnel owners and operators in New York City, it was still removing water and repairing track, signal and power systems within its tunnels under the Hudson and East Rivers surrounding Manhattan.

"The amount of water intrusion into the tunnels is unprecedented — as was the storm itself — so a date for restoration of Amtrak service directly to/from New York Penn Station from either the north or south is not available at this time," Amtrak said in a statement.—*Reuters*



Flags fly in front of the United Nations Headquarters in New York.—XINHUA

Hospitals battled to protect patients

as Sandy raged

Disaster

NEW YORK, 31 Oct — At one New York hospital where backup generators failed, staff carried premature babies down more than a dozen flights of stairs in one of the more dramatic moments for healthcare workers during powerful storm Sandy.

Record flooding and power outages across the northeastern United States made for a long night caring for the most critically ill, as several hundred patients were evacuated in New York City, day-time hospital staff slept overnight on vacant beds and less urgent procedures were postponed.

From Maryland to Massachusetts, hospitals large and small had prepared for the worst as the storm approached, stocking up on supplies and ensuring backup power generators were ready. At least 30 people were reported killed by the storm, and millions left without power.

"It is a very long operation because they have to hand move every patient. There are no elevators and some of the patients are on the 15th floor," said hospital spokeswoman Lorinda

Klein. "All the patients have been safely transported... the nurses had battery-operated machinery for patients that needed that level of care."

Nearby Bellevue Hospital also grappled with a power outage and visitors on Tuesday were turned away at the door as many hallways remained dark, though a receptionist assured them that patients "are okay and have lights."

The Manhattan Veteran Affairs Hospital and the New York Downtown Hospital, both in low-lying areas of lower Manhattan, evacuated patients before the storm hit. Other city hospitals picked

up the slack, including Beth Israel Medical Centre, where one student nurse said nurses had stayed put at the hospital since Sunday, with some working multiple shifts.

St Vincent's Medical Centre in Bridgeport, Connecticut, closed its chemotherapy infusion centre and other outpatient areas and between 60 and 80 of the hospital's 2,700 staff slept in the empty hospital beds. Danbury Hospital and New Milford Hospital, both members of the Western Connecticut Health Network, canceled outpatient services and elective services.

Reuters



Paramedics evacuate patients from New York University Tisch Hospital due to a power outage as Hurricane Sandy makes its approach in New York on 29 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS



A firefighter walks at Breezy Point in the New York City borough of Queens, on 30 Oct, 2012. A fire broke out in the flooded community late Monday night, destroying 80 to 100 houses.—XINHUA

Blackout in Brazil caused by human error Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 31 Oct — A widespread blackout that plunged northeast Brazil into complete darkness for several hours last week was caused by human error, a senior official of the electricity authority said on Tuesday.

Director of the National Energy Agency (ANEEL) Nelson Hubner said that the power outage, affecting all nine northeastern states and parts of the north central and midwest regions, was caused by a flaw in a piece of equipment located between two energy substations in Colinas and Imperatriz.

Hubner said the equip-

ment's safety mechanism was not properly programmed, otherwise the affected region would have been much smaller.

The government will take steps needed to ensure such an error would not occur again, he added.

"The Brazilian (power) system is very sophisticated and must have levels of protection ... so that one random element cannot cause a problem," he said.

Interim Mines and Energy Minister Marcio Zimmermann also promised to take action to prevent such accidents.

Last week's blackout

was the largest and most recent in a spate of similar accidents since late September, including one that forced the Federal Supreme Court to adjourn for several hours in a corruption trial.

The state of Brazil's energy supply network is now a prime concern for the government, especially as the nation is gearing up to host major world sporting events, including the 2014 FIFA World Cup and the 2016 Olympic Games. The government is expected to release on Wednesday a final investigation report on the latest blackout.—*Xinhua*

WORLD

China, Belarus eye deeper trade cooperation

MINSK, 31 Oct — China and Belarus pledged on Tuesday to strengthen communication and expand cooperation in bilateral trade and economy.

The two sides reached several common understandings to deepen communication in trade and economy at the 13th session of the China-Belarus Trade and Economic Cooperation committee here, co-chaired by China's Deputy Commerce Minister Jiang Yaoping and Belarusian Deputy Prime Minister Anatoly Tozik.

Both sides acknowledged that Chinese and Belarusian economies are mutually complementary and enjoy a broad prospect for development, vowing to bring bilateral trade and

economic cooperation to a new height.

Jiang said cooperation in trade and economy between China and Belarus has developed rapidly in recent years, noting that despite global economic woes, bilateral trade volume grew 28 percent year-on-year from January to August in 2012. Jiang said China and Belarus have achieved positive results on the construction of cooperative infrastructure projects such as cement plants and fire power stations, adding other cooperative projects are also underway.

Furthermore, entrepreneurs of China and Belarus have begun to invest in each other's country, Jiang said, noting Belarusian businessmen own factories

in China's northeastern Harbin city, while a China-Belarus industrial park in the suburb of Belarusian capital Minsk is under construction.

For his part, Tozik said cooperation in investment between his country and China has been developing fast, which would bring greater benefit to both sides, noting the China-Belarus industrial park would play an important role in the modernization of Belarusian economy.

Tozik suggested Belarus and China broaden communication and cooperation in tourism and transportation. The session was also attended by some 100 government officials and businessmen from both countries.—Xinhua

Yokohama holds int'l conference to promote "smart cities"



Delegates from some 10 major Japanese and other Asian cities meet in Yokohama on 31 Oct, 2012, to discuss energy-efficient "smart cities" utilizing advanced environmental and information technology, in the first gathering of its kind.—KYODO

YOKOHAMA, 31 Oct — Delegates from some 10 major Japanese and other Asian cities met on Wednesday in Yokohama to discuss energy-efficient "smart cities" utilizing advanced environmental and information technology, in the first gathering of its kind.

At the event, called Smart City Week, scheduled to run until Friday, officials from cities including Yokohama, Bangkok and Yangon, as well as from the Asian Development Bank, are due to announce a joint statement calling for the promotion of smart cities in Asia later in the day.

"Many Asian cities are beset by problems arising from rapid urbanization and population growth," said Yokohama Mayor Fumiko Hayashi in greeting the guests. "We want to strengthen mutual ties by sharing know-how needed to ensure sustainable development."—Kyodo news

Indonesia builds 45 new penitentiaries to solve over capacity problem

JAKARTA, 31 Oct — Ten of 45 new penitentiaries the Indonesia government began to build last year to resolve the overcapacity problem in prisons have been put into operation, a minister said here on Tuesday. "Those ten new penitentiaries have already been occupied by some 1,850 inmates," Legal and Human Rights Minister Amir Syamsuddin said.

He said that his ministry has set aside 700 billion rupiah (about 72.8 million US dollars) to finance those new penitentiaries, adding that those construction projects are conducted gradually. Some of those projects were continuation from the ones carried out during the administration of the minister's predecessor. "We would not wait for the disbursement of 100 percent of the whole allocation. We would maximize our budget and the resources to build those penitentiaries," the minister said.

Earlier reports said that during the previous minister's administration, the ministry had allocated some 1 trillion rupiah (about 104 million US dollars) to finance those projects. According to the ministry's 2011 data, 442 penitentiaries across the country were inhabited by 135,000 inmates, or higher than their capacities of 99,000 inmates. Xinhua



People clean up the mass after Typhoon Son-Tinh hit in north Vietnam's Ninh Binh Province, on 29 Oct, 2012. At least three were killed and two others missing after Typhoon Son-Tinh slashed Vietnam on Sunday, Vietnamese state-owned news agency VNA reported.—XINHUA

Japan decides post-Fukushima crisis disaster mitigation guidelines

TOKYO, 31 Oct — Japan's new nuclear regulatory body on Wednesday decided on new guidelines for nuclear disaster mitigation measures following the Fukushima nuclear crisis last year, expanding the radius of areas that need to make special preparations to up to 30 kilometers from an atomic

power plant. While details need to be fleshed out, such as setting specific criteria for evacuation, the guidelines were revised to meet international standards and rewritten in plain language so as to be more user-friendly, officials of the Nuclear Regulation Authority have said earlier.

Japan

Based on the guidelines and other information provided by the authority, local governments hosting nuclear plants and those on the periphery are expected to craft their own disaster mitigation plans and set the scope of the emergency zones by March next year.

Kyodo news

Flights at Sendai Airport resume after containing unexploded bomb

SENDAI, 31 Oct — Flights at Sendai airport in northeastern Japan resumed Wednesday morning after the Ground Self-Defence Force took emergency safety measures to contain an unexploded bomb, believed to be a wartime leftover, discovered at a construction site

near runways. GSDF personnel piled sandbags around the bomb at around 6 am Wednesday to create about 6-metre-high protective walls as a stop-gap step to prevent fragments from scattering in case the bomb explodes. The first airplane, bound for Osaka, left Sendai Air-

Japan

port at around 7:40 am, almost on time, after all flights were canceled Tuesday due to the unexploded bomb, airport authorities said. But since one of the airport's two runways and part of a taxiway remain closed, flights at the airport could be delayed Wednesday, they said. Xinhua

Kyodo news

Two killed, over 49,700 affected by storm in Sri Lanka

Disaster

COLOMBO, 31 Oct — Two people have been killed and over 49,700 affected by a cyclone which struck Sri Lanka two days ago, officials said on Wednesday. The Disaster Management Center (DMC) said that the north of the country was the hardest hit with over 500 families being evacuated from their homes.

A DMC spokesman said that 49,788 have been affected by the storm as of Wednesday and two people had been killed in accidents related to the weather.

The spokesman said that in the northern town of Mullaitivu 19, 785 people were

affected by the heavy rain and strong winds.

The DMC also said that 65 houses were fully damaged and 448 houses partially damaged following the storm. The cyclone named "Nilam" wreaked havoc flooding roads and uprooting trees in several parts of the island. The Sri Lankan Department of Meteorology on Wednesday said that the cyclonic was moving away towards India.

It said that heavy rain and strong winds were expected to continue in the northern and eastern parts of the country on Wednesday.

Xinhua



Residents of Lhoba ethnic group present their traditional costumes in Nyingchi, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region on 30 Oct, 2012. The Lhoba costume has been listed as China's intangible cultural heritage.—XINHUA

China-US military bands hold joint concert

BEIJING, 31 Oct—The United States Army Band has held its first performance in China. In a goodwill musical exchange focusing on friendship and cooperation through the performing arts, the two countries' military bands made history by holding a joint concert at Beijing's National Centre of Performing Arts.

Entitled "Friendship and Cooperation through Music", the joint concert paired US Army Band musicians with their Chinese military counterparts. The joint concert is another major step in building better ties between the two armies, after China's People's Liberation Army Military Band was invited to perform in Washington last year.

Col Thomas Palmatier,

conductor of US Army Band, said, "Actions speak loud, and we are here, we are here because the leader of our army had wonderful discussions with the leader of the People Liberation Army, and I think leaders from both sides desire us to have much more communication and cooperation on a sustained basis."

The premier in China of the US Army Band "Pershing's Own" with the PLA Military Band drew an audience of more than 1600, including senior military officials and diplomatic envoys.

The two bands performed a mixed programme highlighting the unique and rich musical legacy of each country.

Despite the difference

Relationship



Musicians from China PLA Military Orchestra and the US Army Band "Pershing's Own" perform during a rehearsal at the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) in Beijing, capital of China, on 29 Oct, 2012. A joint concert of the two orchestras were held at the NCPA on Monday. —XINHUA

in culture and political regimes, tonight the world's two superpowers found harmony through music. Many consider this cultural exchange "good public diplomacy", which helps build trust, improve understanding and communication.

The PLA Military Band and the US Army Band gave their first joint performance in 2011, which was hailed as a breakthrough since it was the Chinese band's first official trip to the United States. It was a historic event that took 30 years to realize.

Zou Rui, director of PLA Military Band, said, "If music is the universal language for people, then military music is the universal language for soldiers. I believe this joint concert will help the two militaries from China and the US build better ties, and also improve the friendship

between the two nations." The two countries' military bands will also give joint concerts in Shanghai

and Nanjing. Pershing's Own is scheduled to return to the US on 5th November after the tour.—Xinhua

Opposition Labour increases pressure on Cameron before EU talks

UK

LONDON, 31 Oct—Britain's opposition Labour party piled pressure on Prime Minister David Cameron on Monday by pushing for an even tougher line on the European Union budget than that proposed by his ruling Conservative Party.

Cameron is promising to take a tough line at what are shaping up to be fraught talks next month to agree the EU's next seven-year budget in the face of growing anti-EU sentiment in Britain.

Now left-leaning Labour has raised the stakes by demanding a cut in real terms.

Many Britons regard the EU as an ineffectual and spendthrift source of bureaucracy and Britain's ties with the 27-member bloc are likely to be a key theme in a national election set for 2015. "Labour will argue against the proposed increase in EU spending and instead support a real-terms cut in the budget," Labour finance spokesman Ed Balls and foreign affairs spokesman Douglas Alexander said in a joint opinion piece in



Britain's opposition Labour Party leader Ed Miliband, speaks to demonstrators in Hyde Park at the end of a protest march organised by the Trades Union Congress (TUC), in central London 20 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

the right-leaning *Times* newspaper.

Labour has moved clear of the Conservatives in opinion polls since Cameron's party came to power at the head of a coalition government in 2010. David Lidington, a Conservative and the government's minister for Europe, said Labor had "zero credibility on standing up for Britain in Europe".

"They waded through above inflation increases

for both of the multi-year budgets they approved ... We won't take any lessons from them about budget negotiation," Lidington said in a statement.

Cameron wants to remain within the EU given that it accounts for about half of British trade. But he has pledged to negotiate a new settlement with Brussels then seek the public's "fresh consent" for the deal, giving no timeline.—Reuters

Bank of Japan Governor Masaaki Shirakawa enters the Japanese central bank in Tokyo on 30 Oct, 2012. The BOJ decided to expand its asset purchase programme by 11 trillion yen to 91 trillion yen as additional monetary easing to fight deflation.
KYODO NEWS



Two Israeli policemen indicted for beating Arab youth

Middle East

JERUSALEM, 31 Oct — Israeli Justice Ministry's Department of Police Investigation recently filed charges against two border police who allegedly assaulted a Palestinian youth and tried to cover up their actions.

The incident took place in October 2010, when, according to the Palestinian youth Barafat Ajloni, the two police officers detained him while patrolling East Jerusalem, *Ha'aretz* daily reported on Monday.

Ajloni sustained that both officers took him to a cemetery and conducted a body search, which the youth found very harsh. When he complained about it, one of the police men hit him in the face with the butt of his rifle.

The two officers then took Ajloni to a nearby police station and charged him with

attacking a policeman.

The indictment against the two police officers says that they falsified the report in order to cover up their actions.

The police report written by the two officers states that Ajloni resisted the search and attacked them, which led the two men to hold him against the cemetery wall, where he hit himself in the face.

The officers were charged with obstruction of justice and false report, as well as assault leading to injury. A border police spokesman told the newspaper that the incident "is not representative of border police in the defense of the state of Israel."

Another border police was also indicted by the same ministry's department in a similar case, also from 2010, when border police in

civilian clothes intimidated and wounded a Palestinian laborer.

The Palestinian man, who was working in a kibbutz, was thrown off a ladder, handcuffed, and then beaten up by an officer.

The same officer also fired a few shots in the air and later asked his colleagues to conceal his actions.

The man was charged with assault leading to injury, obstruction of justice and perjury.

Xinhua

Nicaragua sends condolence to hurricane Sandy victims

MANAGUA, 31 Oct—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Monday sent a condolence message to those affected by hurricane Sandy, First Lady Rosario

Murillo said. "Our solidarity and our prayers are with all Nicaraguan brothers and sisters, the Latin Americans, and the Americans who are expecting this terrible

storm," said Murillo.

"We send a solidarity hug from the Nicaraguan people to the people of Jamaica, Bahamas, Haiti and Cuba, who were awfully

affected by hurricane Sandy." The hurricane has killed 11 people in Cuba, 69 in Haiti, two in the Dominican Republic, and one in Jamaica.—Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Salma Hayek scared of plastic surgery

LONDON, 31 Oct— Hollywood beauty Salma Hayek says she will never resort to plastic surgery to retain her youthful looks.

The 46-year-old Mexican beauty, who looks younger for her age, says she does not believe Botox can help either, the *Daily Mail* reported.

“The thought of somebody pulling and cutting around my face gives me stomach ache. Plastic surgery would be so painful. What if it doesn’t look good? What if they made a mistake? I couldn’t do it,” said Hayek, who raises daughter Valentina with husband Francois-Henri Pinault.

“I don’t believe in Botox either. Well... I might do it one day, but I think it’s important to move your skin, so that your muscles stay toned.

I believe if you have Botox you are going to age faster because your face is not getting any exercise.

You’re not oxygenating your face by moving it. I don’t like the way women look with fillers, they are not wrinkled-looking, but it’s not a beautiful look, they don’t look younger,” she said.

PTI



The 46-year-old Mexican beauty, who looks younger for her age, says she does not believe Botox can help either.

Katie Holmes’ embarrassing encounter with Halloween revellers



Katie Holmes with her daughter Suri

LOS ANGELES, 31 Oct — Katie Holmes had an embarrassing encounter with a diner wearing a “Free Katie” T-shirt in a restaurant.

The 33-year-old actress and her daughter Suri, six, sat down to enjoy a quiet dinner at Mr Chow Tribeca, in New York City, on Saturday

(27.10.12) next to a group of Halloween revellers, who were wearing the comedy T-shirt and another shirt which read “Save Suri”.

The slogan emblazoned clothes are references to the campaign that was started when Katie was still married to Scientologist Tom Cruise

— who she divorced in July — urging her to leave the actor. Another member of the party was dressed as a young Tom from Top Gun, but when they spotted who was on the next table they covered up their T-shirts.

A source told the New York Post newspaper: “When they sat down, they exchanged an awkward glance with Katie, but she kept her cool and didn’t say anything.

The embarrassed Halloween crew quickly covered up the costumes before Suri got a chance to take a look.”

It was recently claimed Katie is getting ready to date again following her separation from Tom, 50, and her dad Martin intends to help her find a new guy.

PTI

Emma Thompson transforms herself to play Mary Poppins writer

LONDON, 31 Oct— Emma Thompson is all set to give Tom Hanks a tough time in Walt Disney’s biopic Saving Mr Banks.

Thompson, 53, is playing the role of Mary Poppins author PL Travers in the film, which is currently being shot while Hanks plays Walt Disney.

The actress wore her hair in tight curls and carried a white beaded clutch bag during the shoot, the *Daily*

Mail reported.

Disney, the founder of the animated studio, spent 14 years trying to persuade Travers to allow him to make a film of her children’s story.

Travers was reluctant to sell the film rights but Disney eventually won her over. But Travers did not like the film and became so upset with Disney that she never worked with him again.

Mary Poppins went to become one of the studios’

most beloved films and starred Julie Andrews in her Hollywood debut as the magical nanny. Dick Van Dyke played a one man band who befriends Poppins and the children under her charge.

The 1964 musical featured live action and animated scenes and many memorable tunes, including A Spoonful of Sugar and Lets Go Fly A Kite.

Reuters



Emma Thompson

Pippa Middleton is dating a wealthy investment banker

LOS ANGELES, 31 Oct— Pippa Middleton — who is the younger sister of the Duchess of Cambridge — has enjoyed a string of dates with 37-year-old James Matthews in recent weeks and friends say their relationship is going “from

strength to strength”.

Anonlooker at London’s Hakkasan restaurant, who saw the couple on a recent date there, said: “Pippa and James sat in a secluded booth in the upstairs area, where it was quieter, sharing a bottle of white wine. “They were deep in conversation and only had eyes for each other.

“Pippa was all smiles and kept giggling.

They stayed for nearly three hours and didn’t seem to want the meal to end.”

Pippa — who has been largely single since splitting from Alex Loudon last November after three years together — had been focusing her attentions on her new book ‘Celebrate: A Year of British Festivities for Families and Friends’ but now the party guide has been released, she is ready to love again. A friend told the *Sunday Mirror* newspaper: “Pippa is quite taken with James. She wants to take things slowly at first but she is ready for a full-time man in her life again.”

James is the older brother of Spencer Matthews, who stars on UK reality TV show ‘Made in Chelsea’. —PTI



Pippa Middleton had been focusing her attentions on her new book ‘Celebrate: A Year of British Festivities for Families and Friends’

Taylor Swift to co-host Grammy nominations in Nashville

LOS ANGELES, 31 Oct— Country-pop star Taylor Swift will co-host the Grammy nominations live on television from Nashville, the capital of country music, the Recording Academy said on Monday.

Swift, 22, who has won six Grammy awards, will join rapper-actor LL Cool J to announce nominees in some of the major categories during a one-hour live telecast on 5 December, featuring performances from country artist Luke Bryan and pop-rockers Maroon 5.

The singer is currently on a touring blitz to promote her latest album, “Red”, and has become an awards show favorite, most recently premiering her new single at the MTV Video Music



Awards in September.

Swift’s addition to the roster is part of the Grammy organization’s celebration of country music this year, moving the nominations concert from Los Angeles to Nashville, home to the Grand Ole Opry and dozens of recording studios that have spawned artists such as Swift, Carrie Underwood and Lady Antebellum.

Organizers began televising the nominations in a live show five years ago in a bid to boost TV viewership for the annual Grammy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles in February.

This year, 39.9 million viewers tuned in to see British singer Adele sweep the awards with six major wins.—Reuters

Tsonga into Paris third round with Benneteau win

PARIS, 31 Oct — Jo-Wilfried Tsonga started his quest for an ATP World Tour final spot with a 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 second-round victory over fellow Frenchman Julien Benneteau at the Paris Masters on Tuesday. The sixth seeded Tsonga will claim one of the two remaining spots for next month's season-ending showdown at the O2 in London if he reaches the quarter-finals in Paris. Six players have already qualified for the ATP World Tour finals, which will be

contested between the top eight players of the 2012 race as of 5 November.

Czech Tomas Berdych, the fifth seed who has already secured his London berth, started slowly against Andreas Seppi but eventually sealed a 7-6, 6-2 win. He will next face either France's Richard Gasquet, the 12th seed, or South African Kevin Anderson. Tsonga, who will take on either Spain's Nicolas Almagro or Albert Ramos in the next round, looked set for a routine win when he breezed through the opening



Jo-Wilfried Tsonga

set but Benneteau proved to be a tough nut to crack. Tsonga, however, never lost his concentration.

"In the third set I believe I was in a different state of mind.—Reuters

Wozniacki win first match at Tournament of Champions

Tennis

SOFIA, 31 Oct — Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark, Roberta Vinci of Italy and Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria won the first matches of the women's tennis Qatar Airways Tournament of Champions here on Tuesday evening. In the "Serdika" group at the beginning round, where the players face each other, Wozniacki defeated Hsieh Su-Wei of Chinese Taipei 6-2, 6-2, while Vinci smashed Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia 6-1, 6-2.

In the other, "Sredets"



Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark

Sharapova says winning Wimbledon priority for 2013

MOSCOW, 31 Oct — Russian Maria Sharapova will focus on trying to win Wimbledon next year rather than attempting to regain the world number one ranking. "Wimbledon will be my priority next season," Sharapova, who finished the year as world number two behind Belarussian Victoria Azarenka, told Reuters on Tuesday after signing

a sponsorship deal with electronics manufacturer Samsung in Moscow.

"This year it was different because of the Olympics but if you ask me about my main goal for 2013, it definitely will be Wimbledon." Sharapova made her breakthrough to the tennis elite by winning the 2004 Wimbledon title as a 17-year-old newcomer. This year she won the French Open

to complete a career grand slam and claimed the Olympic silver medal in London. The 25-year-old also said she was hoping to finally end her winless streak against Serena Williams in 2013 after losing to the American in all three of their matches this year, including two finals, in the Olympics and at the WTA Championships on Sunday.

Reuters



Russian Maria Sharapova

group, hosts favorite Pironkova beat Zheng Jie of China 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (4). In the three matches on Wednesday, Russians Nadia Petrova and Maria Kirilenko will face Zheng and Pironkova respectively in the "Sredets" group, while Wozniacki will meet Vinci in the "Serdika" group.

The first two from each group will play in the semifinals on Saturday

and the winners will play Sunday's final.

The tournament meets six players who have captured at least one International Series tournament title during the year, and who are not participating in singles at the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Championships in Istanbul, along with two wildcards.

Xinhua

Soccer

Easy away wins for Barca and Valencia in Copa del Rey



FC Barcelona strolled to a comfortable win away to Deportivo Alaves in the first leg of the third round of the Spanish Copa del Rey on Tuesday night. REUTERS

MADRID, 31 Oct — FC Barcelona strolled to a comfortable win away to Deportivo Alaves in the first leg of the third round of the Spanish Copa del Rey on Tuesday night. Goals from David Villa and Andres Iniesta took the reigning Copa del Rey champions to victory against the third tier Basque side that is best known for its appearance in the final of the 2001 UEFA Cup.

Barcelona coach Tito Vilanova fielded a strong side with Sergio Busquets, Dani Alves and Javier Mascherano all in the Barca side along with the

goalscorers. The home side were cheered on by a full ground and made life hard for Barca until Villa opened the scoring with a good finish from an Iniesta pass.

Iniesta made the game safe five minutes into the second half and Cesc Fabrigas added a third in the last minute to make sure that the return leg in Barcelona will be contractual obligation with hardly any chance of a brave Alaves side causing an upset. Valencia also virtually assured their progress into the last 16 with a 2-0 win away to third tier side Llagostera. On a rain soaked artificial pitch, Valencia relied on remaining

tight in defense and relied on their effectiveness from set pieces: Jonas Goncalves opened the scoring with a header from a free kick just before the break, while Nelson Valdez headed home from a corner with 22 minutes remaining.

LLagostera had a chance to get back into the game eight minutes from time, but Marc Sellares sent his spot kick against the post to make the return leg in two weeks' time virtually irrelevant. The remained of the Copa del Rey first leg ties will be played on Wednesday and Thursday.—Xinhua

Heat ring in new season with win over Celtics

MIAMI, 31 Oct — With shiny new diamond-encrusted rings on their fingers, the Miami Heat began their NBA title defence in confident fashion with a 120-107 win over Eastern Conference rivals the Boston Celtics on Tuesday. Miami were presented with championship rings and rose the title banner to the arena rafters before the game to mark their second NBA title and the first since the creation of the 'Big Three' with the arrival of LeBron James and Chris Bosh to team up with Dwyane Wade.

Ray Allen made his Miami debut against his

old team and put aside any concerns about his fitness with 19 points as the home crowd taunted the Celtics with chants of "We got Ray!". Last season's Most Valuable Player James marked his first ring ceremony with 26 points but had to sit out most of the fourth quarter with leg cramps. James, who also suffered cramps in last season's finals, left in the third quarter but came back before cramping up again. "At that point there was no point in forcing it," said Miami head coach Erik Spoelstra.

"He already went back and started to cramp again.

Game one is not the time to pull what we did in the finals," he added. James' points tally continued his run of scoring at least 20 points in each of his last 28 regular season games against Boston. Wade, looking fresh after the knee surgery in the off-season which cost him a place in the gold medal US Olympic team, top scored with 29 points, while Bosh delivered down the stretch and finished with 19 points. Miami were 19 points up early in the fourth but, in the absence of James, Boston launched a comeback and reduced the deficit to four with just over two minutes remaining on the clock.—Reuters



Boston Celtics forward Paul Pierce (C) drives to the basket as Miami Heat defenders (L-R) Chris Bosh, LeBron James and Dwyane Wade pursue in the second half during their NBA basketball game in Miami, Florida, on 30 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(1-11-12 09:30 am ~ 2-11-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Opening Ceremony and MFF AYA Futsal League
- * News
- * Astrology and Astronomy Horoscope for 12 Sign Ascendants in November
- * Myanmar Biggest Trade Fair & Car Exhibition
- * News
- * Unique and Motivating Chap Char Kut Festival
- * Ye Myint (Monywa) Water Colour 2nd Solo Show
- * News
- * Miracle Post Media

- Production House
- * News
 - * ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Workshop Series 3 AEC Brain storming Tourism, Investment, Logistics and SMES
 - * News
 - * Culture Stage
 - * Singing Ceremony for Myanmar Hospitality & Tourism Conference 2013
 - * News
 - * Music Lovers of the Same Mind (Part-1)
 - * News
 - * Bangkok Hospital Representative Office Celebrates 10th Year Services Excellence
 - * Myanmar Movie "Love Triangle"

MYANMAR TV

(1-11-2012, Thursday)

- 7:00 am
1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatahandi Paritta
- 7:25 am
2. Morning News
- 7:50 am
3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:20 am
4. Dance Variety
- 8:35 am
5. Song of National Races
- 4:00 pm
6. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm
7. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm
8. Cute Little Dancers

- 4:30 pm
9. Teleplay (Health)
- 4:45 pm
10. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Myanmar)
- 4:50 pm
11. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:10 pm
12. Science and Environment
- 5:25 pm
13. India Drama Series
- 6:20 pm
14. Myanmar Series
- 8:00 pm
15. News
 16. Documentary
 17. TV Drama Series

Lashio illuminated in lighting festival of Thadingyut



LASHIO, 31 Oct—On the fullmoon day of Thadingyut as well as Abhidhamma Day, Lashio was packed with devotees, pilgrims and visitors. Starting from 6 am, the Buddhist people took Sabbath and did meritorious deeds at monasteries. Religious associations offered 1000 oil lamps and recited religious verses at ancient Manhsu Pagoda, Yanaungmyin Pagoda and Yantaingaug Pagoda. In the urban area, the people offered rice and alms to members of the Sangha. In the evening, Mee Myinmo festival was held at Bawdayon Monastery in Ward 4 of Lashio and refreshments fed to the local people. Offices and buildings were illuminated. The local people young and old enjoyed the releasing of fireworks and hot air balloons.

Myanma Alinn

Clinton, Ashton arrive in Belgrade



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton(L), Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic(C) and European Union's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton(R) attend a joint press conference after their meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, on 30 Oct, 2012.—XINHUA

BELGRADE, 31 Oct—US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and the European Union's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton arrived in Belgrade on Tuesday to continue their joint Balkan tour.

"Serbia's future is in the EU," Ashton said after the top US and EU diplomats met with Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic and Prime Minister Ivica Dacic. "Our conversations were about what Serbia needs to do in order to continue to the EU."

"It is important that people know that we are working with the EU that Serbia would be in the EU," said Clinton. "We're not here to impose conditions... However, we will be concentrating on a stable future for the Balkans." Ashton, meanwhile, also pressed Serbia to move faster to normalize its ties with Kosovo which unilaterally declared independence in 2008. Clinton and Ashton will be visiting Pristina next on their joint Balkan tour.

Xinhua

Anti-terrorism efforts require int'l cooperation

BEIJING, 31 Oct—As terrorist groups in different countries strengthen communication with one another, the international community should also expand cooperation in cracking down on terrorism in an effort to maintain peace and stability.

The latest development in international terrorism came into the spotlight when a report from the *Global Times*, a China-based newspaper, said that the "East

Turkistan" terrorist forces, as represented by the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), have joined the fight in war-torn Syria. An unidentified Chinese anti-terrorism official was quoted by the *Global Times* as saying that following the commands of al-Qaeda, the "East Turkistan" terrorist forces organized members to sneak into Syria.

The "East Turkistan" terrorist forces are also active in northwest China's

Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. They have carried out a series of terrorist attacks in the region, bringing heavy losses to Chinese people and undermining peace and stability.

The Chinese government has labeled the "East Turkistan" as one of the "three evil forces" of separatism, extremism and terrorism and has been firmly cracking down on them.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong

Lei on Monday said China has acknowledged the report, and the country is firmly opposed to terrorism in all forms.

The "East Turkistan" terrorist forces are strengthening contact with other international terrorist groups, which not only seriously undermines China's state security but also poses threats to the peace and stability of other countries, according to Hong.

Xinhua

Intl education-exchange firms may be banned

BEIJING, 31 Oct—New regulations are likely to ban international agencies from providing education-exchange services in China, according to the Ministry of Education.

A recently published draft regulation allows provincial-level educational authorities to approve or reject qualifications of intermediary agencies, bans foreign agencies entering the market and strengthens supervision of the agencies.

The draft also requires agencies to build an emergency fund, supervised by educational authorities, so that clients can be refunded when the intermediary agencies cannot provide services.

The ministry has published the draft regulation on its website and is soliciting opinion at yaojinju@moe.edu.cn until 5 November.

According to *Xinhua* News Agency, the ministry said some unqualified

agencies provide advisory services to people wishing to study abroad, and some help clients forge materials required for applications or cheat clients out of money.

In July, New Zealand immigration officials found 279 applications submitted by Chinese students contained some forms of fraud, and intermediary agencies were to blame for the fake materials. "I think the ministry simply cut foreign agencies out

without good reason. If foreign agencies can forge materials or cheat clients of money, domestic agencies can do that too," said Chen Naibo, who works for an intermediary agency based in the United States. Chen declined to give the name of his company.

Chen's company mainly provides consultant services to Chinese students who plan to attend high schools in the US.

Xinhua

Peru destroys over 10 tons of drugs

LIMA, 31 Oct—Peruvian authorities on Tuesday incinerated 10.38 tons of drugs seized between July and October, Interior Minister Wilfredo Pedraza said.

The drugs, including 6.7 tons of cocaine paste, 2.5 tons of cocaine, 1.074 tons of marijuana, were confiscated in different anti-narcotics operations carried out by the country's security forces, said Pedraza.

Since July 2011, when President Ollanta Humala

took office, the authorities have destroyed a total of 42.628 tons of illegal drugs, he said.

Pedraza noted that a set of new scanning system had been employed to enhance drug control in the main land, ports and airports.

The government has stepped up the fight against drug cartels, which are believed to have nasty twists with transnational crime groups in Colombia and Mexico.

Xinhua



A group of Japanese nationals arrive at Pyongyang's international airport on 30 Oct, 2012, to return to Japan via Beijing after visiting sites believed to contain the remains of their relatives who died around the end of World War II in what is now North Korea.—REUTERS

President U Thein Sein receives Malaysian guest

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received a delegation led by Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister of Malaysia H.E Tan Sri Bernand Giluk Dompok and party at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, at 3 pm today.

Also present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thein, U Myint Hlaing and U Aye Myint and departmental officials. The Malaysian Minister was accompanied by Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Admad Faisal Muhammad and high-ranking officials.

At the call, both sides discussed promoting trade and investment between the two countries and cooperation in production of palm oil, rubber and forest products sector.—MNA



President U Thein Sein cordially meets Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister of Malaysia H.E Tan Sri Bernand Giluk Dompok. MNA

Selected Myanmar volleyballers join Vietnamese clubs

YANGON, 31 Oct— Myanmar selected volleyball player Aung Thu who will participate in the Army-9 men's volleyball club that will compete in the Vietnam League Men's Volleyball Tournament in 2012 and another player Kyaw Shwe who will join the Army-4 men's volleyball club left here by air on 28 October afternoon for Vietnam. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by responsible persons of Myanmar Volleyball Federation.

Player Aung Thu will join the Army-9 Volleyball Club from 26 October to

26 November and receive US\$ 7000 for salary. He secured one gold medal and three best player awards in the 17th SEA Youth Men's Volleyball Tournament hosted by Myanmar from 22 to 27 August. In addition, he is the player winning highest salary among the Myanmar selected volleyball players. He has experience in playing five months of Thailand League 2011. Kyaw Shwe will join the club from 2 to 26 November, securing 3000 US\$ per month. He has experiences in professional for two times in Vietnam in 2010 and 2011.

Myanma Alinn

Deepavali Day on 13 Nov

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— The Union Government announced that Deepavali Day which falls on 14th waning of Thadingyut, 1374 Myanmar Era, (13

November 2012)(Tuesday) is a holiday of the offices of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in accord with Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.—MNA

Nilam likely to cross southern Indian coasts

NAY PYI TAW, 31 OCT—According to the observations at 2.30 hrs MST yesterday, the depression over Southwest Bay of Bengal remained practically stationary and intensified into a cyclonic storm (Nilam) and lay centered at about 250 miles

Southeast of Chennai, India. It is forecast to move West or Northwest direction and cross the Southern India Coasts within next 24 hour commencing this evening, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.

MNA

Township Administrator's Cup Football Tournery concludes

TAMU, 31 Oct—The final match of Tamu Township Administrator's Cup Inter-Ward/Village-tract Football Tournament was held on 25 October.

In the match, Tanan Village-tract secured champion winning over

Khameik Village-tract. Township Administrator U Khin Maung Zaw awarded championship trophy and cash award to first prize winning Tanan Village-tract and runner-up Khameik Village-tract.

Myanma Alinn

FIFA to confirm Confederations Cup venues next week

ZURICH, 31 Oct—The world governing football body FIFA will confirm next week whether all six venues for next year's Confederations Cup in Brazil will be able to stage the event.

FIFA has already announced that Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte, Salvador, Fortaleza, Recife and Brasilia will host matches in the eight-team tournament, which is seen as a dress rehearsal for the 2014 World Cup.

However, secretary

general Jerome Valcke voiced doubts two weeks ago that all six stadiums would be ready for the event in June due to the slow pace of preparations.

His concern was shared by Brazil Sports Minister Aldo Rebelo, who warned: "We don't have a single stadium ready for the Confederations Cup. We have deadlines.

Stadiums that are on schedule will host matches, those that don't make the deadline won't."—Reuters

Favourable investment climate is a must for investors



Vice-President U Nyan Tun addresses the first work coordination meeting of Permanent Residence System.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct— The existing regulations do not allow dual citizenship, posing difficulties to foreign businessmen, intellectuals and technicians and immigrant Myanmar willing to make investment in Myanmar because of its economic potential and permanent residence system is supposed to be an advisable solution, said Vice-President U Nyan Tun.

The Vice-President added the system is recommended and encouraged by the President in the interests of persons mentioned above and the State, as he addressed the first

work coordination meeting of Permanent Residence System at the Ministry of Population and Immigration here this morning. The Vice-President mentioned the certain success of the incumbent government's efforts for social security, the rule of law, promotion of international cooperation, and introduction of good governance and clean government.

The political process has been changed from authoritarian governance to democratic governance with the check and balance system, noted the Vice-President. Despite a considerable number

of challenges, there have emerged cheerful, encouraging and significant successes. He mentioned some of such successes as granting amnesty to the prisoners, allowing exiled political elements re-enter with dignity, abolishing censorship for the media, the Fourth Estate, free access to Internet, allowing establishment of labour and employer unions, and freedom of participation in political process for people.

The economic landscape has changed along with the change in political landscape. Now is a time when financial capital, technology, and intellectual

capital are urgently needed in bringing about people-centered development in agricultural, industrial, commercial, financial and monetary sectors for socio-economic development of citizens. It is no doubt sound economic foundations of the country if combined with financial capital and technologies would contribute to national economic performance, said the Vice-President, who added this attracts the attention of investors around the globe and immigrant Myanmar waiting to repay the motherland with financial and intellectual assets.

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