

President U Thein Sein receives Swiss Foreign Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov— President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar met Mr Didier Burkhatler, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Federal Councillor of Switzerland and party, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, at 3 pm today.

Also present at the call together with the President were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein and departmental heads. The Swiss Foreign Minister was accompanied

by Swiss Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Christoph Burgener.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on further strengthening amity between the two countries, production of value-added foodstuff and

natural products, cooperation in rehabilitation and providing humanitarian aids, natural disasters, creating job opportunities, conducting health, food and vocational training courses and multi-sector cooperation.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein cordially meets with Mr Didier Burkhatler, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Federal Councillor of Switzerland at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace in Nay

Pyi Taw.—MNA



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun views trophies and souvenirs displayed at 5th coordination meeting of the leading committee for holding XXVII SEA Games.

MNA

SEA Games, great opportunity to shape new nation that regains deserved position in international community



NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov— Successful holding the SEA Games is polishing the image of the State and it is a great opportunity to shape the new nation that regains a deserved position in the international community; and thus, members of respective sub-committees and officials are to actively participate in the successful holding the XXVII SEA Games, said Patron of the Leading Committee of the Preparation for the XXVII SEA Games Vice-President of the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun at the 5th coordination meeting of the leading committee at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Sports, here, at 10 am today.

The Vice-President stressed the need to follow the work guideline for realization of Green SEA Games, Clean SEA Games and Friendship SEA Games. He pointed out that it is necessary to encourage active participation of the entire people in holding the SEA Games in line with the Strategic Objectives as SEA

Games, improve the stadiums and gymnasiums meeting set standards, hold the competitions to create the best conditions of the athletes, ensure convenience of users in all services, present entertainment programmes on Myanmar culture to the world, undertake security measures, benefit the economic and social sectors in formation, management and market activities, show off significant achievements in major cities for sports contests by gearing up the development

drive of the State, shift the construction projects of sports events to create the new shape of the State and to be vehicles that bring the reform strategy and open door policy of the State, abide by the principles on fair competitiveness in realization of the sports market oriented economic system in line with the international ethics, fully protect the intellectual property rights, give training to personnel to become high-capable athletes, uphold the principles on openness, justice, capability and honesty in carrying out the government tasks, organize experienced managers and coaches to turn out talent athletes and accelerate the sports management and systematic research works for all-round development of Myanmar sports.

The Vice-President gave instructions on preparation tasks for the SEA Games as strategic principles to be able to encourage

the people to participate in the tasks, accepting the Games as a modernization drive of the State, uplifting the opening-up policy, social civility and living standard of the people. Moreover, he stressed the need for building the sports venues in line with the technological provisions of the International Olympic Committee, setting the aim for gaining the social benefit and serving the long-term sports interest of the citizens, prepare safety places for contestants and spectators, fulfilling the requirements for the Paralympics Games and consider requirements of disabled athletes and fans.

He then instructed those present to undertake control of environmental pollution, sustainable development of ecosystem, realization of urban transport management and enhancement of information and communication system.

(See page 2)

Flowers, fragrance, lights offered to Myathalun Pagoda

YANGON, 2 Nov— A ceremony to offer 9000 flowers and fragrance was held at Myathalun pagoda in Magway on 30 October.

Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe and wife, regional ministers

and members of the religious associations participated in the ceremony.

They also donated provisions to the members of the Sangha and offered 9000 lights to the pagoda at night.—MNA



Shweku Buddha Pujaniya festival held on a grand scale

PAKOKKU, 2 Nov— Shweku Buddha Image which is being kept at the building on Bogyoke Road in Ward 9 in Pakokku, Magway Region was conveyed around the town on 1st Waning of Thadingyut.

Cultural troupes and

movie stars performed entertainments on that day. Starting from 14th Waxing of Thadingyut, there was an entertainment of Hsan Khit theatrical drama troupe till 1st Waning of Thadingyut. A ceremony to offer alms to 2000 members of Sangha was held in the early

morning on the fullmoon day of Thadingyut.

King Alaungsithu built and donated Shweku Buddha Image, one of the famous Buddha Images in Pakokku, and the Buddha Image is famous for its ornamental backdrop of a throne. — *Kyemon*

Development tasks in Seikkyi-Khanaungto geared up

YANGON, 2 Nov— Construction of a suspension bridge linking between Seikkyi-Khanaungto and Hlinethaya Townships in Yangon Region is nearing completion. Moreover, Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township Development Affairs Committee is upgrading the narrow lane for trishaws bike into a two-lane motorway.

Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township is accessible only by water in the past, Yangon Region government asked the Union government for allowing separate budget allotment for regional development tasks in the township. As a result, implementation of river-crossing suspension bridge project is realized. Only trishaws and motorbikes are means of transport for 37000 people living in the township.

Basic course for writing

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov— Organized by Myanmar Writers Association, a basis for writing will be conducted at the office of MWA at No (529) on Merchant Road, here, from 6 November to 8 December.

Well-experienced writers will give lectures on composing poem and writing articles and novels at the



So, widening of downtown streets is underway.

The 10-foot wide Baho road section will be upgraded into a 20-foot wide one and Shukhintha ring road will be a 10-foot wide concrete road.

Efforts are being made to complete the upgrading of downtown roads in March 2013 in conjunction with works of bridge construction project. Upon completion, local

course.

The course will be run on five days a week from Tuesday to Saturday. Admission fee is K 12000. As there is enrollment limit, those who want to take the course may register at the office not later than 5 November. Further information, contact Ph: 01 252417. — *Kyemon*

3D Flight Simulator building nearing completion

YANGON, 2 Nov— An official of the Ministry of Transport said that 3D Flight Simulator building would be opened soon.

The purpose of building 3D Flight Simulator is to enhance capacity building of navigators of the Department of Civil Aviation. It is required for more openings of initial training course and proficiency course.

SEA Games, great opportunity to shape new nation that regains...

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Later, he gave instructions on development of cultural environment, security, systematic health and sanitation, legal environment development and public participation.

Chairman of Leading Committee for Preparations for holding the XXVII SEA Games Chairman of the Subcommittee for Participation in All Events and Preparations for Securing Achievement and Ceremony Preparation Subcommittee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Chairman of

the Subcommittee for Preparation for Successfully holding the Opening and Closing Ceremony Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu, Chairman of Transportation Subcommittee Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Chairman of the Reception and Accommodation Subcommittee Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung reported on preparations sub-committee wise.

Afterwards, chairmen, vice-chairmen and secretaries of security sub-

committee, invitation and reception sub-committee, health and medical sub-committee, fund raising and presentation sub-committee, information sub-committee, communication sub-committee reported on tasks to be carried out.

Afterwards, Chairman of Myanmar Paraspports Federation Maj-Gen Nay Lin reported on arrangements for 7th ASEAN Paralympic Games and participants of the meeting took part in the discussion. Vice-President U Nyan Tun urged the committees to coordinate each other to complete the works in time.

MNA

Practice makes perfect

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov— Under the supervision of Sports and Physical Education Department, a total of 67 athletes of Myanmar Cycling Federation are taking a regular training from 8 am to 12 noon daily for XXVII SEA Games.

Cycling event is divided into two categories— long distance and hilly competitions in which men's and women's team and individual contests are included.

The aim of hosting the XXVII SEA Games is to showcase Myanmar culture and to prove Myanmar is in

peace and stability and to utilize the game experiences. That's why, it is incumbent

on every athlete to take good practice with added momentum for securing gold medals in the competitions.

Kyemon



Asian Youth & Junior Weightlifting C'ships 7-12 Nov

YANGON, 2 Nov— The Asian Youth & Junior Weightlifting Championships 2012 to be hosted by Myanmar will be held at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township from 7 to 12 November.

Over 400 athletes from Bangladesh, Vietnam, Republic of Korea, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Malaysia, Thailand, Turkmenistan, China Taipei, Tajikistan, India, Uzbekistan, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and host Myanmar.

Myanmar has selected Phone Myint Naing and Min Min in the 56-kilo class, Tun Tun Aung in 69-kilo class and Zaw Htet Aung in 94-kilo class in the men's U-17 event, Zin May Oo in 44-kilo class, Nyo Nyo and Khaing Khaing in

48-kilo class, Wint Theingi Khaing and May Phyo Moe in 53-kilo, Soe Sanda in 58-kilo class, Thuza in 63-kilo and Amy Lwin in 69-kilo in the women's U-17 event, Nanda Aung and Baung Chan in 62-kilo, Sithu Tun in 69-kilo, Aung Aung in 85-kilo and Kyaw Tun Aung in above-105-kilo class in the men's U-20 event, Ma Nyo Nyo in 48-kilo, Daisy Win and Ma Aye Cho in 53-kilo, Amy Lwin in 63-kilo, Ei Phyo Kyaw in 69-kilo and Le Le Win in 75-kilo in the women's U-20 event.

To be able to secure success in the Championships, Vice-President of Myanmar Weightlifting Federation U Kyaw Aung Soe will take responsibility of manager for the Myanmar team and supervises training of the lifters at Aung San Gymnasium.

Myanma Alinn

WORLD



British millionaire Christopher Tappin

British millionaire pleads guilty in Iran missile scheme

SAN ANTONIO, 2 Nov — British millionaire Christopher Tappin pleaded guilty in federal court in Texas on Thursday to charges of attempting to sell missile parts to Iran, prosecutors said.

Tappin, 66, from Orpington, Kent, who had previously pleaded not guilty, reversed that stance in federal court in El Paso as part of a plea agreement with prosecutors that calls for a sentence of 33 months

in prison and a fine of more than \$11,000, according to US Attorney Robert Pitman.

Federal prosecutors say Tappin, a retired shipping magnate, and two other men sought to ship zinc/silver oxide batteries for Hawk Air Defence Missiles to Iran via the Netherlands. One of the middlemen turned out to be an undercover US customs agent.

“Mr Tappin stated under oath that he was guilty of aiding the attempted export

to Iran of sensitive military equipment,” Pitman said in a statement.

“In so doing, the defendant put at risk the national security of the United States and its allies by trying to sell to Iran the batteries that make the Hawk Missiles operational.”

The two other men involved in the scheme, which began in late 2005 and ended with Tappin’s arrest in early 2007, have been sentenced to terms of 20 and

24 months in federal prison.

Tappin was extradited to the US earlier this year following a two-year legal battle. He is free on bond pending his sentencing, which is scheduled for 9 January. Prosecutors have said they will not object to Tappin’s sentence being served in England so he can be close to his ill wife and other family members. He had faced up to 35 years in prison.

Reuters

World Bank steps up support for reforms in Myanmar with new interim strategy

WASHINGTON, 2 Nov —The World Bank announced on Thursday a 18-month work plan to bolster reforms in Myanmar, which will focus on budget, regulatory and private sector.

The Strategy, endorsed by the Bank’s Board of Directors, will guide the World Bank’s work in the country for the next 18 months, focusing on accelerating poverty reduction by helping reform institutions to deliver better services, the Washington-based global development institution said in a statement. Under the interim strategy, the world bank will help the Myanmar government improve economic governance and create conditions for growth and jobs by providing policy advice and technical assistance in public financial management, regulatory reform as well as private

sector development.

“Our strategy has a strong focus on inclusive development and reforms that create real opportunities for all the people of Myanmar,” said Pamela Cox, World Bank Vice President for East Asia and Pacific.

Part of the strategy includes a 80-million-dollar grant for community-driven development projects in Myanmar, which would empower rural communities of the country to choose the most needed investments.

The Bank said it is working with the Japanese government and the Asian Development Bank to clear arrears in early 2013 to enable Myanmar to access resources of the International Development Association, the Bank’s fund for the poorest, and resume a full country programme.

MNA/Xinhua

UN headquarters reopens after three days closed because of Sandy

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Nov — Staffers returned to find UN headquarters on Thursday with the dome over the General Assembly building stripped of most of its protective covering, the Delegates Entrance security canopy destroyed and communications within a challenge. All were victims of the wrath super storm Sandy waged on New York City.

Senior UN officials in briefings on Thursday said that on Sunday the complex was ordered closed as Sandy barreled up the Atlantic Ocean along the US eastern seaboard towards New York after clobbering parts of the Caribbean last week.

They said they acted in consultation with local authorities and all city bus and subway service had been ordered suspended because of the storm. Staffers would find it well near impossible to get to work.

What staff was able to report for duty on Thursday not only found challenges at work but still had a challenge

getting to work.

Subway service in the metropolis was limited and driving was near impossible with severe gridlock, despite restrictions on only cars with three or more people allowed to cross city bridges into Manhattan. There were many, many empty desks both in the compound and in satellite offices around the East Side of Manhattan, officials said. The homes of many UN employees suffered flood, wind damage or electricity loss.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon escaped the storm’s fury. He was in the Republic of Korea and returned to New York Wednesday. His chef du cabinet, Susana Melcora, was in Geneva during the storm, returned only at 3 am local time Thursday. She had been coordinating headquarters recovery efforts by telephone, she said. However, Melcora found on return to her Manhattan home she was a storm victim too, she said. There was no electricity.

Nearly half of Manhattan,



The UN headquarters reopens after three days of closure due to the impact of the hurricane in New York, the United States, on 1 Nov, 2012. A senior UN official said here Thursday that the United Nations headquarters complex in New York “suffered significant damage in terms of flooding” from Hurricane Sandy, which hit the metropolitan area on Monday.— XINHUA

below 39th Street lost power on Monday night when waters of the East and Hudson rivers and New York Bay surged under gale-force winds. Most of the Xinhua correspondents assigned to the UN also were without electricity.

One of those many empty UN desks was assigned to a Filipino staffer whose home in Jersey City, in the hard

hit adjacent US state of New Jersey, was flooded. However, a UN safety and security officer assigned to an entrance was at his regular post despite his Toms River, NJ, home being “hit hard.” In both cases there were no injuries. “Everyone is fine, that’s all that matters,” the officer told Xinhua, seemingly shrugging off the disaster.

Xinhua

UK Cameron says he will listen to parliament on EU budget

LONDON, 2 Nov — Prime Minister David Cameron said on Thursday he would listen to parliament after MPs voted in favour of a real terms cut in the European Union budget, and reaffirmed his promise to use Britain’s veto if necessary.

But he added that Britain was already taking a tough position on the EU budget — where it is pushing for a real terms freeze that would allow the 27-nation long-term spending plan to rise only in line with inflation.

“Of course, I will listen carefully to parliament but we should be absolutely clear that this government is taking the toughest approach to the EU budget of any government in this country’s history,” Cameron told reporters.

“If we don’t get what



Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron stands outside Number 10 Downing Street in London on 1 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

I consider a good deal for Britain, I will have no hesitation in vetoing the multi-year financial package — it won’t happen.”

Wednesday’s slim and non-binding defeat was Cameron’s first significant parliamentary loss and saw the

Labour Party join forces with anti-EU rebels in the prime minister’s Conservatives.

Cameron said he would “like to achieve a deal” in Brussels at a summit on 22-23 November and bring it back to Britain’s parliament for approval.— Reuters

Germany, Ireland pledge to reach deal on EU 2014-20 budget

BERLIN, 2 Nov — German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny on Thursday pledged to make further efforts to reach a deal on the EU’s long-term budget, a key issue of an upcoming EU summit in Brussels this month.

After her meeting with Kenny, Merkel said they agreed it was crucial to keep working towards a deal, adding that Germany would do everything in its power to try to achieve a solution.

“Ireland will also do this — we spoke about it — and now we’ll have to see how things develop,” Merkel told reporters. The 2014-20 EU budget proposed by the European Commission which included a 5-percent increase to 1.03 trillion euros (about

1.33 trillion US dollars) is not welcomed in some member states at a time of financial difficulties.

Kenny, whose country will take over the rotating EU presidency in January 2013, said he hoped the differences among members in the bloc could be surmounted, adding

that it was necessary that the people of the EU and the eurozone see the decisions made by leaders being followed through.

Kenny said Ireland’s priorities during its EU presidency would be promoting economic stability, growth and jobs.— Xinhua



A helicopter participates in a military maneuver held in Issyk-Kul Oblast of Kyrgyzstan, on 31 Oct, 2012.— XINHUA



A view of boats from a marina which are washed ashore near Jersey City, New Jersey on 31 October, 2012. —REUTERS

Start-ups plan new ways to deal with future disasters

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 Nov— Floating robots to gather storm data, fuel cells for power outages, and tools to choose evacuation routes and help responders stay connected to the Internet are among the innovations that increasingly will help responders deal with future disasters, start-up companies say.

These tools are helping track weather patterns and measure their strength, soften their impact and speed recovery. Many are already proving their worth, not just in massive storm Sandy but

in other weather disasters such as Hurricane Isaac and this summer's extreme drought in the US Midwest.

VantagePoint-backed LiquidRobotics, for example, deploys floating robots to measure vast amounts of ocean data. Unlike passive buoys, its robots — called wave gliders — can be sent towards an oncoming storm. Unlike weather-tracking airplanes, the robots measure conditions at the ocean's surface, providing key information about a storm's future track and strength.

Science

The wave gliders provide real-time information of tectonic plate movement, helping scientists determine if earthquakes will trigger tsunamis, for example. LiquidRobotics equipment is already deployed in some areas around the Pacific, including Indonesia and Japan, for this purpose. Currently, LiquidRobotics works with some branches of the US National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration, including the agency's tsunami warning centre and buoy centre.—Reuters

Pentagon sees further use of BlackBerry as door opens to others

Technology

WASHINGTON, 2 Nov—The Pentagon on Wednesday said it would continue to support “large numbers” of BlackBerry phones made by Research in Motion Ltd even as it moves forward with plans that would allow the US military to begin using Apple Inc's iPhone and other devices.

The US Defence Department last week invited companies to submit bids for software that can monitor, manage and enforce security requirements for devices made by Apple and Google

Inc, with an eye to awarding a contract in April.

The Defence Information Systems Agency (DISA) quietly posted its request for proposals on a federal website on 22 October, the same day that the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency said it would end its contract with RIM in favor of Apple's iPhone.

Losing some of its Pentagon business to other providers could deal another blow to RIM, which once commanded the lead in the smartphone

market but has rapidly lost ground to Apple and Samsung's line of products as customers abandon its aging BlackBerry devices.

For many years, the Pentagon relied solely on BlackBerry phones because RIM met its tough security requirements, but other companies have been improving security on their devices, and a growing number of military commanders are clamoring for rival devices with bigger touch screens and faster browsers.

Reuters



A Research in Motion (RIM) BlackBerry smartphone handset is reflected in the logo of an Apple iPhone in this illustration picture taken in Lavigny on 21 July, 2012. —REUTERS

Apple's iPad mini includes LCD display driver from rival Samsung

Technology



A visitor looks over the new iPad mini at an Apple event in San Jose, California on 23 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 Nov— Apple Inc's (AAPL.O) new iPad mini appears to include an LCD display driver from

South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS), a key supplier but also the Silicon Valley tech

giant's fiercest rival in a global mobile-device war.

The iPad mini, to be available in stores on Friday, includes Apple's A5 processor, SK Hynix Inc (000660.KS) flash memory and a number of chips from Fairchild Semiconductor International Inc (FCS.N), according to electronics repair company iFixit, which acquired one early and opened it on Thursday.

Apple and Samsung are engaged in patent disputes across 10 countries as they vie for market share in the booming mobile industry,

and Apple is believed to be seeking ways to rely less on Samsung. But Samsung remains a key supplier for Apple, manufacturing its application processors and providing other components.

The 7.9 inch iPad mini marks the iPhone-maker's first foray into the smaller-tablet segment. Apple hopes to beat back incursions onto its home turf of consumer electronics hardware, while safeguarding its lead in a larger tablet space—one that even deep-pocketed rivals like Samsung have found tough to penetrate.—Reuters

Spacewalkers leave station to track coolant

Science

leak

CAPE CANAVERAL, 2 Nov—A pair of spacewalking astronauts floated outside the International Space Station on Thursday to attempt to bypass a leak in one of the outpost's cooling systems.

Engineers suspect a micrometeoroid or tiny piece of space debris may have punched a hole no bigger than the width of a hair into one of the station's radiators.

The devices dissipate heat from batteries and other equipment aboard the solar-powered station, a \$100 billion laboratory for biological, fluid physics and other science experiments now flying about 255 miles above Earth.

Station commander Sunita Williams and flight engineer Akihiko Hoshide left the station's Quest airlock around 8:30 am EDT for what was expected to be a 6.5-hour spacewalk to reconfigure ammonia coolant lines and hook up a spare radiator.

The leak is small so it will take several weeks to determine if the radiator was the source, said space station

programme manager Mike Suffredini.

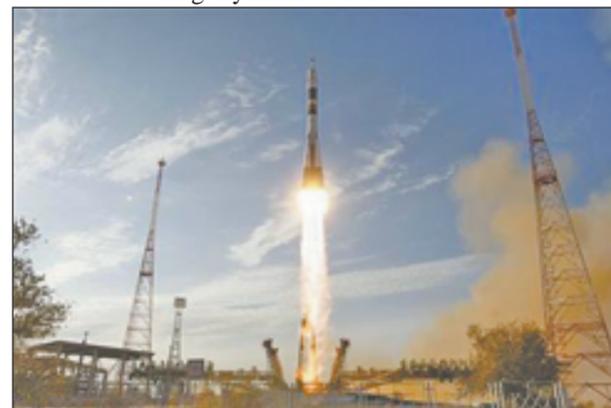
If routing ammonia through the spare radiator does not stem the leak, another spacewalk to replace a pump or other equipment in the system may be needed.

Unless it is fixed, the leak eventually would trigger the cooling system to shut down, leaving the station without a backup system for a section of the station's solar arrays.

The cooling system

holds about 50 pounds (22.7 kg) of ammonia. It would automatically shut down if the ammonia level drops to 40 pounds (18 kg), said flight director Mike Lammers.

As ground control teams prepared for the spacewalk on Wednesday, the station had to maneuver to avoid another piece of debris. This piece was part of the wreckage from the 2009 collision of an Iridium communications satellite and a Russian satellite.—Reuters



The Soyuz TMA-06M spacecraft carrying the International Space Station (ISS) crew of US astronaut Kevin Ford and Russian cosmonauts Oleg Novitskiy and Evgeny Tarelkin blasts off from its launch pad 31 at the Baikonur cosmodrome on 23 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

Technology

Sharp fears for future as Japan TV makers bleed

TOKYO, 2 Nov— Struggling Japanese TV maker Sharp Corp warned it might not be able to survive on its own, as it almost doubled its full-year net loss forecast to \$5.6 billion, and said it was considering alliances with other companies. In a statement, the company said it booked massive second-quarter losses and is seeing “serious negative operating cash flow.” “This raises serious doubts about (our ability) to continue as a going concern,” it said, adding it was taking steps, from pay cuts and asset sales to voluntary redundancies, to generate cash flow.

Sharp has been in talks for months with Hon Hai Precision Industry Co Ltd about the Taiwan-based group becoming its biggest

shareholder. Sharp said on Thursday it expected an agreement on that before a March deadline, but added it was considering other alliances as well.

“Perhaps it will not fail within this year, but I don't think Sharp has a viable business in the next 3-5 years,” said Tetsuro Li, CEO of Commons Asset Management in Tokyo. “The company hasn't got much time left and they need to cut off businesses that they can, conserve cash and ... produce something that's really competitive.”

Sharp CEO Takashi Okuda told reporters: “We have lots of great technology and we want to tap that asset to revive and make money, but I can't say we are now a company with that vitality.”

Reuters



Sharp Corp's President Takashi Okuda attends a news conference in Tokyo on 1 Nov, 2012. —REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Aichi Bank forms business alliance with Thai counterpart

NAGOYA, 2 Nov—Aichi Bank Ltd, a regional bank in central Japan, said Thursday it has formed a business alliance with Kasikornbank Public Co of Thailand to help its corporate clients advance into the Southeast Asian country.

The clients will be able to receive services in Japanese should they open accounts with the Bangkok-based bank.

The two banks have

upgraded the cooperation agreement reached in June 2011 as an increasing number of the Nagoya-based bank's clients make forays into the country.

It is the third business alliance with overseas banks for Aichi Bank, following ones with Bank of China Ltd. in November 2003 and PT. Bank Negara Indonesia (Persero) Tbk. in April this year.

Kyodo News

Fiat will start investments at Melfi plant by end-2012: press

Business

MILAN, 2 Nov—Italian car maker Fiat's (FIA.MI) Chief Executive



Fiat Jeep

Sergio Marchionne said on Thursday the company will start investing to build new sport utility vehicles (SUV) at its Melfi plant by year-end.

"Next week we will send our technicians down (to the plant)," he told *Corriere della Sera* newspaper in an interview.

"By the end of the year we will start spending."

Fiat's Melfi plant will therefore be the first to be re-tooled for new models outlined in the Italian carmaker's plan to fix its loss-making European business.

A sharp downturn in Europe has forced Marchionne to focus on bolstering the company's European activities instead of buying more shares in US automaker Chrysler Group LLC, which it also controls, the company said on Tuesday.

Marchionne told *Corriere della Sera* on Thursday his new plan to increase investment in higher-margin models will enable the company to compete with Germany's premium car makers.

"Thanks to Chrysler (car platforms), we can



leverage the Alfa Romeo and Maserati brands and become a nuisance to premium brand competitors," he said.

Asked if it was perhaps too ambitious to aim to compete with German car makers BMW (BMW.GE), Mercedes-Benz (DAIG.DE) and VW's (VOWG.DE) Audi, he said "just watch."

Fiat had previously put new investment in its Italian plants on hold pending an upturn in the European car market, which is in its fifth year of decline.

Its decision to unblock investments was partly due to Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti's reforms, he said.

"Monti's Italy is a different Italy from the one I have seen in recent years," he said. "And it's one that's worth betting on."

Reuters

Wipro to separate non-IT units to focus on outsourcing

BANGALORE, 2 Nov — Wipro Ltd (WIPR.NS), India's No.3 software services provider, said it will fold all its non-IT businesses into a new company and focus exclusively on information technology, sparking a more than 3 percent rally in its shares in Mumbai.

The new unlisted firm, known as Wipro Enterprises Ltd, will include Wipro's consumer care,

medical diagnostics and infrastructure units, Wipro said in a statement to the stock exchanges on Thursday.

Wipro's board will remain unchanged and the separation of the non-core units will have no impact on the company's management structure, according to the statement.

Separation of its non-core businesses will allow Wipro to focus on IT, where

it competes with Infosys Ltd (INFY.NS) and Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS.NS). In the fiscal year 2011-12, Wipro's IT business accounted for 94 percent of its operating profit.

Fierce competition and rising operating costs have eroded the bottom line of some firms in India's \$100 billion-a-year IT services sector. Creating a IT-focused company will allow Wipro to "accelerate investments necessary to capitalize on market growth opportunities," said T K Kurien, CEO Of Wipro's IT Business. Wipro shares rose 3.21 percent to 361.9 rupees at 0436 GMT. Tata Consultancy and the broader market .BSESN were little changed, while Infosys was down 0.43 percent.

"I don't think it's a

very material move, in the sense, when people looked at Wipro, it was always as one focused on IT," said Bhavin Shah, chief executive of Equirus Capital in Mumbai. "There are lot of positives internally that one hears about Mr Kurien, about steps taken for stronger focus on the IT business, at some point if that starts delivering, certainly that's what the market will really care about," Shah said.

Wipro is due to announce its earnings for the quarter ended on 30 September on Friday. —Reuters



People walk in the Wipro campus in Bangalore on 23 June, 2009.—REUTERS

Indian hotel sector needs 13 bln USD investment in next 5 years

Business

KOLKATA, 2 Nov — The Indian hotel industry needs at least 7,200 billion rupees (about 13.09 billion US dollars) investment in the next four to five years to build another 180,000 rooms across 1 to 5-star categories, an industry sources said on Thursday.

The country currently has 120,000 star-category rooms. "We need to focus more on developing products across

our east and west coasts," said Vivek Nair, former president and Executive Committee member of the South India Hotels and Restaurants Association. According to him, India does not have enough hotels or resorts on beachfronts. Usually, tourists from Russia and other oil-rich countries in that belt travel to Egypt. But, considering the current political and social atmosphere in Egypt, tourists are advised not to visit that country. And they are now

looking to countries such as India and Indonesia.

"India stands a better chance, but unfortunately it does not have enough tourism products to offer them," he said.

The Indian government has budgeted 350 billion rupees (about 6.36 billion US dollars) for the tourism sector, hoping to bring its annual foreign tourist inflow to 12.4 million in the next couple of years.

Xinhua

Sony logs 40 bil yen group net loss in April-Sept

TOKYO, 2 Nov—Sony Corp said on Thursday it remained in the red in the April to September period with a group net loss of 40.11 billion yen, compared with a loss of 42.48 billion yen a year earlier, due partly to the strong yen and slowing sales of products such as digital cameras.

The Tokyo-based electronics maker said its group operating profit surged 41.2 percent to 36.53 billion

yen. Its group sales grew 1.6 percent to 3.12 trillion yen after turning its mobile phone unit into a wholly owned subsidiary.

For the current business year through March, the company revised downward its consolidated sales outlook by 200 billion yen to 6.6 trillion yen due to lower-than-expected sales of products including digital cameras and portable game

devices amid the global economic slowdown.

The company said the anticipated decline in sales was also attributable to the deteriorating ties between Japan and China following the Japanese government's nationalization in September of three of the five main islands in the Senkaku group, administered by Japan but claimed by China and Taiwan.

Kyodo News

High-protein diet may help some people shed pounds

Health

NEW YORK, 2 Nov—Dieters who eat meals and snacks high in protein might lose a bit more weight than those who get less protein and more carbohydrates — all other things being equal, a new analysis of past studies suggests.

Researchers found that over an average of 12 weeks, people assigned at random to a high-protein diet lost about 1.8 extra pounds, and more body fat, than those assigned to a standard-protein diet.

There was no difference, however, in how much participants' blood pressure, cholesterol levels or markers for diabetes risk changed

based on the protein content of their diets.

Thomas Wycherley from the University of South Australia in Adelaide, the lead author on the study, said in an email to *Reuters Health* that the extra weight loss in the high-protein group was "only modest," but that "it may still represent clinical relevance on a population level."

For the study, he and his colleagues analyzed 24 past trials that included a total of 1,063 people.

Participants were all put on a reduced-calorie, low-fat diet designed to help them lose weight.



Women sit on a bench in New York's Times Square on 31 May, 2012.

REUTERS

About half were prescribed a high-protein version of that diet — containing about 85 grams of protein per day for a 150-pound person — and the other half a standard-protein diet, with 49 grams per day, on average, for a 150-pound person. Across all trials, high-protein and standard-protein diets were designed to provide the same calorie reduction.

Depending on the study, participants lost an average of anywhere from 2.4 to 25.1 pounds, according to findings published last week in *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*.

It's not obvious why a higher protein-to-carbohydrate ratio might help people shed more pounds — and one obesity researcher not involved in the new analysis questioned whether the trials were even robust enough to make that conclusion.

"The studies are generally far too short to tell impact," Dr James Levine from the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona, told *Reuters Health* in an email. What's more, he added, "many are inadequately conducted to be relevant."

Reuters

Harper to promote Canada business, but no investment rules yet

OTTAWA, 2 Nov — Prime Minister Stephen Harper will promote Canada as open for business during a 3-11 November trip to Asia, although he is not likely to unveil long-awaited guidelines for foreign takeovers of Canadian firms, an aide said on Thursday.

"I don't think it's a problem at all to go around the world and say we're open for business, because we are," Harper's chief spokesman, Andrew MacDougall, told reporters ahead of the trip, which will take Harper to India, the Philippines and Hong Kong.

"Canada overwhelmingly supports foreign investment in Canada ... There's been a small handful of transactions that have been turned down under the Investment Canada Act."

The Investment Canada Act asks the industry minister to rule whether foreign takeovers over a certain size are of "net benefit" to Canada, a term that has never been fully defined.

The climate for foreign investment became even more opaque after an interim government decision last month to turn down a Malaysian bid for a Canadian company, and expected delays on whether Canada will approve a Chinese takeover attempt.

The Conservative government, which says Canada needs some \$650 billion in investment over the



Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks during Question Period in the House of Commons on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on 31 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

next decade, has promised to release new guidelines on foreign investment at around the time it rules on the \$15.1 billion bid by China's state-owned CNOOC Ltd to take over oil producer Nexen Inc, and Harper has said decisions would be made "fairly shortly."

Asked if the guidelines would be unveiled during the trip to Asia, MacDougall said: "I don't expect we'll be covering much on the foreign investment front." The CNOOC bid has become increasingly controversial in Canada amid heated debate over whether foreign state-owned enterprises should be allowed to buy Canadian companies.

Sources close to the matter told Reuters on Wednesday that the government needed more time to formulate its investment guidelines, and the deadline for its CNOOC decision was likely

to be extended beyond 10 November. Canada may also need the guidelines in the \$5.17 billion (\$5.17 billion) offer by Malaysian state oil company Petronas to buy natural gas explorer Progress Energy Resources Corp. In a surprise ruling, Ottawa rejected the bid on 19 October, saying it was not of net benefit to Canada. Petronas has 30 days to change the terms of its proposal and submit a new offer.

Harper will be in India from 4-9 November with International Trade Minister

Gunman wounds four at college Halloween party in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 2 Nov — A gunman opened fire outside a large Halloween party at the University of Southern California and wounded four people in the second major shooting incident involving the urban Los Angeles institution this year, police said on Thursday.

The gunfire erupted late Wednesday outside a party at the Tutor Campus Centre, the university said in a statement, although the people wounded in the incident were not students, faculty or staff at the school.

Two men got into an argument at the party before one opened fire, shooting the other man and three bystanders, according to Captain David Carlisle, a spokesman for the university's Department of Public Safety.

Police said two people were detained for questioning in connection with the shooting outside the party, which they said attracted a large crowd including many people from outside the campus. The violence came just over six months after two Chinese graduate students were shot and killed while sitting in a car a few blocks from the

Canada

Ed Fast and a group of corporate executives. He will then spend a day in the Philippines and half a day in Hong Kong.

He will meet the chief executive of Hong Kong, but will not be meeting Chinese government officials during the visit. Canada and India have been working for eight years on an agreement to protect foreign investment, but it was not clear if this might be signed on the trip.

The two countries also have been negotiating a civil nuclear energy deal which would enable Canadian firms like Cameco Corp to export uranium to India.

China and India signed a nuclear cooperation agreement in 2010 but Canada wants further language that will let it ensure uranium imported from Canada is used only for peaceful purposes. MacDougall could not say if agreement on these new provisions would be reached next week.—Reuters

campus.

Those deaths were attributed by law enforcement to an attempted robbery gone wrong, and sparked a debate over whether the expensive private university provides adequate security measures in neighbourhoods where many students live adjacent to the campus.

The shooting on Wednesday also came four years after University of Southern California sprinter Bryshon Nellum, who won a silver medal this year at the London Olympics, was shot in both legs at a Halloween party near campus.

Reuters

Costa Rica, Qatar ink air service accord

SAN JOSE, 2 Nov — Costa Rica and Qatar have signed an open skies agreement to promote bilateral air service and travel, authorities said on Thursday.

Costa Rican Tourism Minister Allan Flores said the agreement, signed on Wednesday, would make it easier for the countries' airlines to open new routes and increase flights as needed, while adhering to the migration and aeronautical legislation of each other's countries.

The accord also permits

the two countries' airlines to make stopovers on flights to and from third-party destinations and facilitate passenger transfers.

"Today we enter a new continent," said Flores. "We open the doors to this important market to increase the arrival of tourists from this country."

Qatar has the highest per capita gross domestic product in the world, and its economy, mainly based on oil and natural gas exports, has been growing by leaps and bounds.—Xinhua

British royal couple to visit PNG, Australia, New Zealand

SYDNEY, 2 Nov — The British royals Prince Charles and his wife Camilla will visit Papua New Guinea (PNG) on Saturday as part of a two-week tour of PNG, Australia and New Zealand to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's diamond jubilee, Australian media reported on Friday.

The royal couple will depart for Australia on Monday after they complete their three-day tour of PNG.

The will visit five states in their six-day tour of Australia before continuing

their journey to New Zealand.

After months of preparation, the tour has recently been threatened by a group of PNG landowners who told local media they would march on Jackson's international airport to disrupt the visit, as they protested over a compensation dispute with the government.

Both PNG Prime Minister Peter O'Neill and the police have urged the landowners not to disrupt the event and assured that the royal visit is on track.

Xinhua

Venezuela's Chavez meets Brazilian FM on Mercosur adaptation

CARACAS, 2 Nov — President Hugo Chavez met on Thursday with visiting Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota on the adaptation process after Venezuela joined the Southern Common Market (Mercosur) in August.

Chavez told Patriota that both sides are working to classify Venezuelan products and define a common tariff on foreign

LatAm

commodities.

He also said Patriota's visit was a "powerful message from Brazil and from Mercosur" following his re-election on 7 October.

"Venezuela knows how to start the most powerful engines in the building of a great South American power, whose major driving force is the brother country of Brazil," he said. Chavez also confirmed his attendance at the next Mercosur summit scheduled for 7 December in Brazil.

Earlier in the day, Patriota held closed-door talks with his Venezuelan counterpart Nicolas Maduro, in preparations for the next meeting between Chavez and Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff to advance Venezuela's tariff adaptation process. Mercosur comprises Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela, with a policy of signing trade deals as a group.—Xinhua

Fuel truck blast kills 23, injures 135 in Riyadh

RIYADH, 2 Nov — A truck transporting fuel exploded on Thursday in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, killing 23 people and wounding some 135 others, Saudi state television reported.

The explosion took place in the eastern part of Riyadh when the driver hit a bridge on top of Shaikh Jaber road. The accident damaged

Saudi Arabia

several vehicles and nearby houses, according to the report. The injured including the driver were referred to the nearby hospital, while no official statistics were released yet about the exact deaths and injuries.

The civil defense controlled the fire of the explosion.—Xinhua



Picture taken on 1 Nov, 2012 a collapsed building at the site where a truck transporting gas exploded in Riyadh. The truck transporting fuel exploded on Thursday in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, killing 23 people and wounding some 135 others, Saudi state television reported.—XINHUA

Rakuten Inc President Hiroshi Mikitani holds the Kobo Glo, one of the new models of the Kobo Touch electronic book readers that the online shopping mall operator will market in Japan, during a Press conference in Tokyo on 1 Nov, 2012. KYODO NEWS



LOCAL NEWS

Plan to strictly supervise traffic rule enforcement for taxis



YANGON, 2 Nov—The Yangon Region government is making arrangements for traffic rules enforcement works to ensure systematic runs of taxis, urge the taxi drivers to abide by the traffic rules and enable the passengers to enjoy convenience of taxi transportation.

A member of traffic police force said, "Actually, the traffic police force enforces the taxis under the Vehicle Law and regional

rules. At present, the traffic rule enforcement will be undertaken as the growing number of taxis is loosing the acts to abide by the traffic rules."

Some taxis break the traffic rules like that of buses. The taxis do not aware of traffic dangers. All their acts that they stop in front of the passengers cause dangers for other vehicles.

"In fact, taxi drivers are striving for earning incomes to be able to pay daily

charge for taxi owners and to be spent on expense of families. As such, they break traffic rules unexpectedly," remarked a taxi owner.

Whatever it may be, any driver must abide by traffic rules.—*Myanma Alinn*

Myanmar needs to export more rattan production

YANGON, 2 Nov—As the export volume of raw rattan is larger than that of finished products, job opportunities can not be created on a wider scale for the local people, said Chairman of Myanmar Rattan Entrepreneurs Association U Kyaw Thu.

"Finished goods of rattan can be shifted into a drive for poverty alleviation. As it is a cottage industry, the produces do not need factories and workshops. They have to give priority to export of finished rattan goods more than the raw rattans not to fade out the production process of traditional works," he remarked then.

As Forest Department enlists the finished rattan

goods and scrutinizes the products on several steps, the export process wastes a long time. Thus, such difficulties are to be solved for convenience in exporting process of the rattan producers. In consequence, the rattan producers could not export their products to the market in time. Hence, the rival exporters occupy the shares of market.

"Myanmar, Malaysia and Indonesia produce large amount of rattans. Indonesia bans export of raw rattans this year and allows export of finished rattan works only. Indonesia fetches US\$ 500 million from the export of finished rattan works. Myanmar earns US\$ 10-20 million only from the rattan



Anniversary of Driver Journal celebrated

YANGON, 2 Nov—Ma-Hta-Tha Driver Journal held its annual ceremony at the hall of Yangon Region All Private Bus-line Control Committee, here, on 1 November morning, attended by Yangon Region Minister for Transport U Aung Khin.

Chairman of the

Committee Patron of the Journal U Hla Aung explained the road safely campaigns. Vice-Chairman U Hla Thaung Myint (Hla Thaung Myint-Ma-Hta-Tha-Central) and Secretary U Ba Myint spoke words of honour.

The region minister and officials presented prizes to

outstanding persons. The Driver Journal is published as of 27 October 2011 with the aim of reducing traffic accidents, promoting good relations among bus owners, bus workers and passengers and spending the profits of the bus lines in the road safely campaigns.—*Myanma Alinn*

Myanmar women's volleyball team under training for XXVII SEA Games

YANGON, 2 Nov—The selected Myanmar women's volleyball team constituted with 16 players are under training as preparations for taking part in the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted in 2013 by Myanmar.

To have experiences for the coming SEA Games, Myanmar women's team participated in the 2011 Indonesia SEA Games. After participation in 1997 SEA Games, Myanmar women's team was out of sight from the international competitions for a decade.

To achieve success in front of the own spectators on the motherland, the Myanmar women's team started its training as of 1 January 2012. To gain precious experiences from international competitions,



the Myanmar women's team competed in the Asian Inter-Club Women's Volleyball Championship in Thailand

in April and the Asian Youth Women's Volleyball Championship in Thailand in September.

Myanmar women's team stood seventh in the Asian Inter-Club Youth Championship. Myanmar team plans to take joint exercises with Chinese team in China in April 2013.

The Myanmar women's volleyball team constituted with chief coach U Thein Swe, assistant coach U Kyaw Soe Aung and trainer U Hlwan Moe comprises players Nilar Aye, Yi Yi Lwin, Moe Moe Myint, Moe Moe Si, Aye Nanda Kyaw, Cho Cho Win, Khin Thet Wai, Thi Thi Aung, Ohnma Than, San San Htay, Phyu Phyu Wai, Zar Zar Hlaing, Aye Nanda Myint, May Thu Aung, Ei Nanda and Phyu Thwe Soe.

—*Myanma Alinn*



products," said a rattanware technician.

The rural areas export 80 per cent of finished rattan works. Of them, Ayeyawady Region produces the largest volume of rattan works. Yekyi Township can earn thousands of million kyats from the rattan industry. From April to October, over 3000 tons of raw rattan and 30 tons of finished rattan goods were exported to foreign countries.

China is the top customer of Myanmar in purchasing raw rattan and Bangladesh is the second top customer country.—*Myanma Alinn*

Football match gamblers seized in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 2 Nov—Under the supervision of Police Inspector Kyi Shein of Meiktila District Anti-Crime Squad, Sub-Police Inspector Zin Ko Ko and local authorities arrested Maung Gyi (a) Zay Ko Ko, 38, together with K 27,200 in gambling football matches

and vouchers used in betting at Gangawthit Café beside Yangon-Mandalay Highway in the industrial zone at 6.30 pm on 27 October.

No 3 police station of Meiktila took action against Maung Gyi (a) Zay Ko Ko under the law.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Beware of Fire

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 3 November, 2012

Heal the western part of the country

Renewed violence in Rakhine State has claimed many innocent lives and made thousands homeless, raising alarm to the government that the western part of the country is in dire need of the rule of law. Many see it as one of the greatest challenges that the country in democratic transition must address. Perhaps, it is a test for the law enforcement mechanism of the democratic country.

We could see that all the riots since the start are based on rumours which provoked angers of both sides, but the sources of these rumours are still unknown. The President warned "persons and organizations who are conducting manipulation in the incidents in Rakhine State behind the scene" in a statement issued on 25 October. The statement also vowed to bring them to justice.

Who does manipulate these tensions and why? There may be various parties involved and reasons why. But, the top priority should solely be given to restoration of law and order in the riot-torn region and provide urgent humanitarian aid to the victims in increasing make-shift relief camps.

Western media portrays the case as the religious divide while the local counterparts cite it was the communal strife. It may be the fight between the two groups each of which holds a different religious belief or comes from a different race, but it is nothing connected with religion or race. Neither side does engage in violence for religion or race. We have the laws that we bow to and have the elected legislators in session. Let the law decide. In this critical moment, we must avoid edges.

Some criticisms also indicate the incident as human rights violation of the government. The government vowed to "defend against these criticisms through every possible mean".

Now, most of the locals in the second least developed state of Myanmar are in relief camps and are living on aids. We will have to take a considerable amount of time to heal the pains of the victims while helping them wake up from the nightmare and return to their life as ever before. But, the aids that channeled into the state must sincerely be destined for both communities.

If you continue to irritate me, I'll have to lodge complaint at the President Office.



Myay Zar

NATIONAL

Outbreak of social problems is common as people are living together in human society

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov— Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin accompanied by US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell, British Am-bassador to Myanmar Mr Andrew Heyn, Australian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Bronte Nadine Moules and party, toured Myebon, Yanbye and Kyaukpyu Townships via Sittway.

At the meeting hall of Myebon Township General Administration Department,

two societies by legal and peaceful means.

After that, the Ambassadors and members raised the questions. Next, they met the displaced people at Kantha Htwetwa village relief camp. The Union Minister, the Chief Minister and departmental heads presented relief aids to them. Then, they viewed accommodation and healthcare of the displaced persons at temporary relief camp in Taungpaw village near Taungpaw ward and provided relief assistances

meeting with townsenders and departmental officials the Union Minister said that they including diplomats led by the Ambassadors from US, UK and Australia came to the incident-hit regions in order to let the world know the real cause of the incidents. Ensuring socio-economic development in the Region needs to have peace and stability and to solve issues in the legal bound. Due to the conflicts have caused a barrier to economic development, short-and-long term socio-

outbreak of the similar cases in the future.

Then, the Union Minister, the Ambassadors and party looked into the fire-hit houses and damages. Diplomatic members raised the questions on the real cause of the incidents to local people.

In meeting with local people and townsenders at Kyaukpyu Township General Administration Department, the Union Minister said that Kyaukpyu is a commercial port city. The outbreak of such new incidents has caused a hindrance to Kyaukpyu's development. Local people will have to live to avoid the conflicts, considering the social interest of future generations there as those incidents can undermine regional stability and the rule of law. After that, local people explained the facts about the real cause of incidents, and the diplomatic members raised the questions to local people. From there, they visited the fire-hit Paikseik ward in Kyaukpyu and met with the displaced people at Thanbyu Monastery Relief Camp in East Ward and at Kyauktalon makeshift relief camp in Gonchain village-tract and presented relief aid to them.



Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay provides relief assistance to families at Kantha Htwetwa relief camp in Myebon Township.

MNA

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay said that thanks to the widespread information network system, no country in the world can hide their information. It needs to analyze the real causes of the conflicts. The outbreak of social problems is common as people are living together in the human society. The ways how to solve the problems are crucial. President Office has issued the Announcement No.2/2012.

The outbreaks of any conflicts would not be allowed. Stern legal actions will be taken against those who and the organizations that manipulate the Rakhine incidents. Townsenders are urged to make cooperation in solving the conflicts between

to them.

From there, they met with townsenders, local organizations and the displaced people in Yanbye Township. At a

economic development programme should be implemented. Cooperation is to be made by Peace and Stability Committee formed in townships for averting the

MNA



Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay provides relief assistance to victims at Kyauktalon salt field displaced camp in Kyaukpyu Township.—MNA

Workshop on implementation of e-Government process held

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov—A workshop on implementation of e-Government process was held at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, here, this morning. On the occasion, Union Minister at the President Office U Tin

Naing Thein and Chairman of Myanmar Computer Development Council Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun gave addresses.

Afterwards, Principal of the Telecommunications and Postal Training Centre under the Myanma Posts and

Telecommunications UKyaw Soe, Patron of Myanmar Computer Federation U Thein Oo, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Construction U Yan Naung and General Secretary of MCF U Zaw Min Oo respectively read out the papers. It was attended by Union Ministers U Tin

Naing Thein and U Thein Tun, Deputy Minister U Thauung Tin, Secretary of the Reforming and Developing Supervisory Committee Dr Maung Maung Wint, managing directors and directors-general under the ministry, departmental heads, CIOs, officials concerned and guests and media.

MNA

NATIONAL

Establishment of diplomatic relation...

(from page 16)

After that, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw submitted the report on financial, economy and social status for 2011-2012 financial year sent by Union

Government.

The report was discussed by Public Accounts Joint Committee Secretary U Maung Toe, Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) Constituency, Dr Aung Than of Shwebo Constituency, U



Khaing Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency and Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.6. Then, Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representative U Ba Shein of Kyaukpadaung Constituency participates in discussion.

MNA

reviewed representatives' discussions, and the Hluttaw decided to put it on record.

The meeting came to an end at 1.40 pm and will go on at 10 am on 8 November.—MNA

Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Zin Yaw makes clarification.

MNA



Workshop on National Level Agricultural Sector Development held

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov — To achieve success in the national level objectives in the agricultural sector, short-term and long-term plans should be implemented in accordance with the G.A.P system: "Government Policy", "Assistance" and "People Cooperation", said Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing.

In his opening address of the workshop on development of the agricultural sector at the ministry here today, the Union Minister stressed the importance of the "Government Policy", "Assistance" and "People Cooperation"—GAP system covering political assistance, financial assistance, technical assistance, know-how assistance, experience assistance and "P" Public/People collaboration, cooperation coordination, combination and contribution to achieve the objective of the development of the agricultural sector.

The workshop has been held with the aim of adopting pragmatic policies and laying

down tasks for the rural areas development, poverty alleviation and the people-centered development, he added.

Every country in the world is concentrating for their food security, and Myanmar has also given priority to the food suffi-

ciency and food security as a national duty, he added. Myanmar has a potential for expansion of the farmland as the country has used just 18 percent of its land, he said.



Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and party view agricultural produce and machine parts.

MNA

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The workshop has been held with the aim of adopting pragmatic policies and laying

down tasks for the rural areas development, poverty alleviation and the people-centered development, he added.

The national-level workshop on agricultural development would contribute to socio-economic development of the entire agro-based and resource-rich country, he said.

Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan said free flow of commodity, investment, service, skilled labour and

information U Aung Kyi said he believed that land reform is crucial for development of agricultural sector and drafting the agricultural development strategy for socio-economic development of Myanmar citizens.

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capital must be allowed as of 2015 according to ASEAN Vision 2020. As these situations are challenges and crucial for Myanmar's agricultural and cooperative development, his ministry would cooperate with the

Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Cooperatives and other line ministries.

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw said models of growth and balance, integrated growth and distributed growth, private sector leadership and public sector leadership, aids and employment and flow of labour must be put into consideration in drafting agricultural development project. Deputy Minister U Hset Aung discussed cooperation of farmers.

President U Win Aung of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry discussed plans for cooperation of private sector. The Union ministers and Hluttaw committee members, experts and guests viewed the booths in the ministry.

A total of 24 papers will be read out at the workshop that lasts till 3 November.

The workshop was attended by Union ministers, chairs and members of Hluttaw committees, officials, agriculturalists and local and foreign media.—MNA

Townships of Katha District seized 35.5614 tons of illegal timbers, three chain saws and 18 related items at Pyinte reserved forest in Wuntho Township on 26 October. Action is being taken to arrest the suspects.

Forest staff from Pyay District and Pyay Township in Bago Region on 26 October seized 5.7738 tons of illegal timber while conducting a search of U Win Cho garage in Industrial Zone of Pyay. No (2) Police Station filed a lawsuit against Daw Tayoke Ma and accomplices.

Likewise, a team comprising six forest staff from Paukhaung seized 0.5120 ton of teak near middle Nawin forest reserve in the township on 27 October and arrested U Zaw Lwin of Htaungya village.—MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister presents at "soon" donation, setting adrift light ceremonies

YANGON, 2 Nov — Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and wife attended Sangha Maha Pavarana and "soon" donation ceremony,

held at Shin Sivali ordination hall of Shwemawdaw Pagoda (Western stairway) in Bago on 30 October.

At the 161st setting adrift

light of Shwegyin Township on 31 October, they enjoyed performances staged by chorus dancing participants, and awarded them.—MNA



Illegal teaks seized

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov — Apart from establishing forests and carrying out systematic management for sustainability of forest resources, Forest Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is taking action against illegal timber extraction and forest products.

A combined team comprising officials of

Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win making a speech at the Sangha Maha Pavarana and "soon" donation ceremony.

MNA

Forest Department from Bhamo Township in Kachin State, members of police force and ward administrators arrested U Aung Khin and U Aung Swe together with seized 0.5 ton of sawn wood and 0.9690 ton of teak while searching motorized boats carrying illegal timbers near Tapein River in Bhamo Township on 28 October separately. The team confiscated 1.330 tons from a motorized boat at the same place the following day but the suspect was at large. The forest department filed a lawsuit against the suspects and action is being taken to arrest the suspect at large.

A combined team comprising forest staff from Katha and Wuntho



A dish of seafood is displayed on a cuisine show held in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 31 Oct, 2012. The cuisine show was part of the 7th China Suzhou Food Festival which kicked off here Wednesday. — XINHUA

Hungary, Russia sign South Stream gas pipeline accord

BUDAPEST, 2 NOV — Representatives of Russia's Gazprom and Hungary's energy wholesaler MVM signed a new ownership agreement on Wednesday for the 229 kilometer portion of the South Stream gas pipeline scheduled to run through Hungary.

Gazprom export CEO Aleksandr Medvedev signed the accord with MVM CEO Csaba Baji ushering in a new phase of the project agreed by the two sides in 2008.

The new agreement established a company called South Stream Hungary responsible for final investment decisions.

The Hungarian section of the project is expected

to cost 600 million euros (778 million US dollars), 70 percent of which will be covered by credit. The expected completion date is 1 Jan, 2016.

Medvedev praised the accord saying it would offer Hungary long-term advantages and stability. Hungary's current gas supply line from Russia runs through Ukraine through the Druzhba (or friendship) pipeline, which Russia shut down several times because of disagreements with Ukraine.

MVM's Baji reiterated the government's commitment to improving energy security and diversifying European Union gas supply routes.—Xinhua

Fire destroys school warehouses in Rio, none injured

RIO DE JANEIRO, 2 NOV — A large fire on Wednesday severely damaged the warehouses of three samba schools in Rio, destroying costumes and floats prepared for the city's traditional carnival parade, but causing no casualties. The blaze, which was believed to start from the warehouse of the Flor da Mina samba school, soon spread to nearby Alegria da Zona Sul and Porto da Pedra, the local fire department said.

A samba school is a kind of club or dancing school devoted to practicing for performances of samba, an African-Brazilian dance, at various events, the most important of which is the parade in the yearly carnival. The fire will not affect the February 2013 carnival as

there is still plenty of time for the schools to recover from the damage, said Deo Pessoa, director of samba school league Lierj.

"Schools ... lost equipment, machines and a few floats, but I am sure our carnival will still be

grand with the joint efforts of our members," Pessoa added. Fires are common in samba school warehouses due to the presence of tons of flammable materials and electric equipment. They can be very devastating, especially when occurring

too close to the carnival. The last large fire of this kind struck in 2011, about a month before the carnival, causing huge damage to the floats and costumes of three samba schools of the premier league.

Xinhua



A visitor consults at a booth for China International Television Corporation during the 2012 DISCOP Africa which runs from 30 October to 2 Nov, in Johannesburg, on 31 Oct, 2012. DISCOP Africa is a key platform that connects national broadcasters, the media, and channel operators of Sub-Saharan Africa. XINHUA

Ecuador seizes 32 tons of drugs in 10 months

QUITO, 2 NOV — Ecuadorian police seized some 32 tons of illicit drugs and arrested 3,400 drug traffickers in the first 10 months this year, Ecuadorian Vice Interior Minister Javier Cordova said on Wednesday.

Among the drugs, seized in 2,000 operations, 12 tons were destined domestically, Cordova told a local radio. Meanwhile, the Education Ministry launched a campaign on 18 Oct to fight drug abuse at schools. According to Cordova, a large amount of drugs were traded on school campus.

Ecuador is a transit hub of drug trafficking from South America to the United States and Europe. In 2011, the country seized about 26 tons of drugs and arrested 4,158 drug traffickers, including both Ecuadorians and foreigners.—Xinhua

Former Chinese vice premier's new book launched in London

LONDON, 2 NOV — The English edition of "Works of Art by Li Lanqing: Chinese Seals and Calligraphy" was launched here on Wednesday afternoon in the Millennium Hotel in London Mayfair. The book, jointly published by Macmillan Publishers Limited, Higher Education Press, and Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, contains images of 461 seals and some calligraphy by the former Chinese vice premier.

Su Yuheng, president of China's Higher Education Press, noted that this book was different from traditional art catalogue. "It carried poetry, paintings, photos, illustrations and descriptions as supplement to the seals, which could give readers a general picture of China's traditional art, as well as culture and history," he said.

Li, also a former member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, has been dedicated to the popularization of Chinese culture and art since his retirement in 2003. "In seal cutting, Li had some innovation in the content, style and material," said Fan Di'an, dean of the National Art Museum of China. "His works showed the aesthetic knowledge and cultural interest of Chinese leaders," he said.

Andrea Rose, director of visual arts at the British Council, believed that the innovation "showed how ancient art was invigorated," while Simon Allen, chief executive of Macmillan Education, expressed the hope to introduce more Chinese artists to Britain. The Chinese Embassy in Britain, the National Art Museum of China and the British Museum will hold an exhibition on Li's seal cutting works, which will run from Thursday to 15 Jan, 2013, in the British Museum in London.—Xinhua

Top Canadian book prize awarded to humorist, travel writer

TORONTO, 2 NOV — A humourist, travel writer and novelist who penned a fictional tale about the inner workings of Nigerian email scams won Canada's most prestigious and lucrative literary prize on Tuesday. Will Ferguson won the C\$50,000 (\$50,000) Scotiabank Giller prize for his novel "419," published by Penguin Canada.

"I'd like to raise a toast to the written word," Ferguson, said in his acceptance speech as he drank from a flask at the podium. Besides the cash prize, the award will likely lead to a sharp boost in sales for the novel that is about a woman who hunts for those she believes are responsible for her father's death. The

winner was chosen from a short list that included Alix Ohlin for "Inside," Nancy Richler for "The Imposter Bride," Kim Thúy for "Ru" and Russell Wangersky for "Whirl Away."

In its 19th year, this year's Giller winner was chosen by a three-member jury: the Irish author Roddy Doyle, the Canadian publisher and essayist Anna Porter and the American author Gary Shteyngart. Ferguson's book was called a "fast-paced, impeccably plotted thriller that investigates the world of Nigerian email scams," by Globe and Mail critic John Barber, who had predicted the book was the odds on favorite to win. In the run-up to the competition the Giller



Will Ferguson toasts to the audience during his speech after winning the Scotiabank Giller Prize for his novel "419" at the Ritz-Carlton in Toronto on 30 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

jury extolled Ferguson as a "true travel writer" who was attuned to detail as well as dialogue and suspense. "It is tempting to put "419" in

some easy genre category, but that would only serve to deny its accomplishment and its genius," the jury said.

Reuters

Russia, Palestine call to resume peace talks in Middle East

MOSCOW, 2 NOV — Russia and Palestine called for sooner resumption of peace talks between Palestine and Israel, Russian Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

During a meeting between Moscow's special envoy to Middle East Mikhail Bogdanov and Palestinian ambassador to Russia Faed Mustafa, the two diplomats exchanged views over the current situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian-Israeli peace talks, the ministry said in a statement.

The two sides "called for the resumption of Palestinian-Israeli peace talks on the known international legal base" and took it as the most

important factor for general stability of the region, said the statement.

Meanwhile, Russia and Palestine confirmed their intention to promote political dialogue and expand fruitful cooperation in various areas.

Russia is part of a diplomatic group known as the Quartet, which also includes the European Union, the United States and the United Nations, working for peace between the Palestinians and Israelis on the basis of the two-state solution.

In 2002, the Quartet framed a roadmap for peace but made little progress in resolving the decades-old conflict.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

China moves forward in promoting people's well-being, democracy

China

BEIJING, 2 Nov — The ruling Communist Party of China's arduous and steady moves to promote people's well-being and democracy over the past ten years have proved fruitful.

The decade following the 16th CPC National Congress in 2002 saw the fastest growth of resident's income since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

China established a social security net covering urban and rural residents, intensified reform of its education, healthcare systems, and continued to improve the scheme of providing affordable housing for low-income earners.

Meanwhile, great achievements were made in boosting democracy. In a landmark move, "protection of human rights" was incorporated into China's constitution in 2004, demonstrating the country's determination to better safeguard people's rights.

Four years later, a regulation on government information disclosure was introduced to increase public access to official information, facilitating people's supervision over governments.

In 2011, 98 central government departments for the first time made public their spending on dining, travels and vehicles.

These expenditures, which used to be kept from

people, were often blamed as major areas for extravagance of tax-payers' money.

This year, microblogging accounts of government organs totalled more than 80,000, providing a bridge for communication between officials and the people.

Furthermore, CPC Central Committee General Secretary Hu Jintao in a key speech delivered on 23 July urged efforts to make sure people can enjoy their rights to the full. China under the leadership of the CPC has made great achievements

in promoting both people's well-being and democracy.

The country's coordinated efforts for the dual goals produced a reciprocal effect. By listening to the will of the people and striving to meet their expectations, the authorities translated reform and development plans to improved livelihoods of the masses.

Meanwhile, the country continued to innovate practices and systems to ensure that people's legal rights could be better realized as the country's economic

transformation fuelled more demands among citizens.

However, it should be fully understood that each task concerning people's well-being is a "world-class" one in China, given the country's huge population and weak economic foundation.

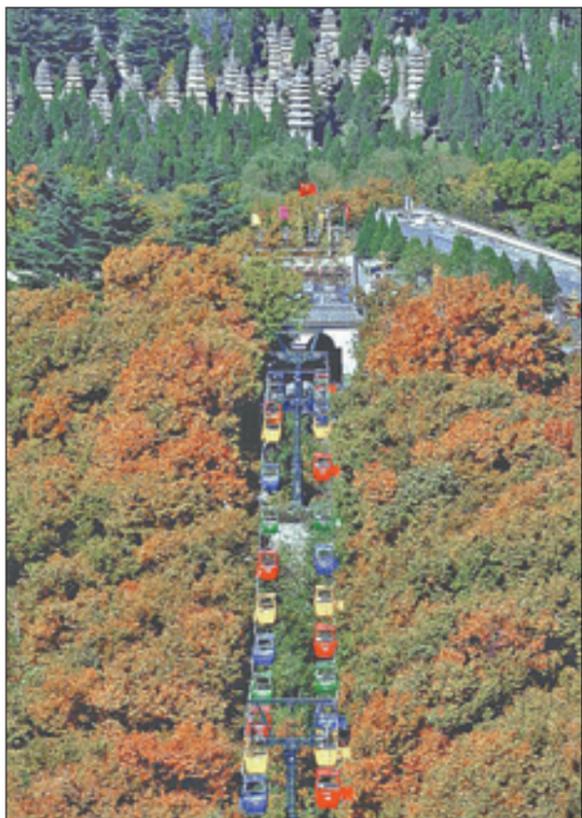
To promote democracy is the same, both arduous and complicated.

China should spare no effort in advancing people's well-being and democracy, and meanwhile all the reform and development steps should be made in a down-to-earth manner and based on its own circumstances. Under the leadership of the CPC, China will go forward boldly into a better future in terms of people's livelihood and democracy—Xinhua



An Environment Ministry official works on her laptop computer while preparing a muffer and a lap blanket next to her, at the ministry in Tokyo on 1 Nov, 2012. The ministry the same day started a seasonal campaign to reduce heating energy use through a variety of small efforts in everyday life, such as clothing and meal choices, calling on people to set room temperatures at homes and offices at 20 C.— KYODO NEWS

Cable cars run through autumn leaves near the Pagoda Forest of the Shaolin Temple at the foot of the Songshan Mountain in Dengfeng City, central China's Henan Province, on 31 Oct, 2012.— XINHUA



Japan to import rare earths from Kazakhstan

Japan

TOKYO, 2 Nov — Japan is likely to start importing rare earths from Kazakhstan as early as January as part of its efforts to lower its dependence on China, the Yomiuri newspaper said on Friday, citing unidentified government sources.

The supply of rare earths has been a major concern for Japan after China at one point held back shipments of the vital industrial ingredients in 2010 in the wake of a bilateral dispute.

China, the world's biggest producer of rare earth metals, is also likely to turn an importer of them by as early as 2014 as it boosts consumption in domestic high-tech industries. The group of 17 elements are used in new technologies like smartphones and hybrid cars.

The Yomiuri said Japan plans to import a total of around 1,500 tonnes of rare earths from Kazakhstan a year, accounting for about 7.5 percent of its annual demand. That includes about 20 tonnes a year of dysprosium, used in motors for electric and hybrid cars, which would account for 3 percent of Japan's demand for the material, it said.

Reuters

1.26 mln S China residents affected by Typhoon Son-Tinh

China

HAIKOU, 1 Nov — Typhoon Son-Tinh, the 23rd typhoon of the year, has killed one person and left another six missing in south China's Hainan Province, as well as affected over 1.26 million others, local authorities said on Thursday.



Visitors play at an Angry Birds outdoor theme park in Shanghai, east China, on 31 Oct, 2012. The theme park, which is located in Tongji University, covers an area of about 200 square metres.— XINHUA

Australia pledges 104 mln USD to help fight malaria in Asia-Pacific

SYDNEY, 2 Nov — Australian Foreign Minister Bob Carr announced on Friday that Australia will provide 100 million AU dollars (104.13 million US

dollars) over the next four years to help fight malaria in the Asia-Pacific region.

Carr made the announcement at the 2012 Malaria Conference in Sydney on Friday. The Asia-Pacific is the second worst-hit part of the world after Africa, recording 30 million cases of malaria a year and 42,000 deaths. The 22 countries attending the conference committed to "urgent" collective action to control drug-resistant malaria.

Carr told the conference that a collective responsibility was the only feasible way to continue the fight against malaria. "Without it the threat will only grow. What's needed is political commitment," he said. "Malaria kills a child somewhere every 30 seconds. Eighty percent of the children killed are under five."— Xinhua

India

strategic ties between Japan and India in maritime security and economic ties.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries, said Gemba, hoping the visit will deepen the partnership between the two sides.

Singh is also going to meet Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko during the visit.

Xinhua

Noda to visit Laos to attend Asia-Europe Meeting

Asia

TOKYO, 2 Nov — Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda will visit Laos from Sunday to Wednesday to attend a meeting of Asian and European leaders, Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura said on Friday.

Noda is slated to hold bilateral talks with his Laotian counterpart Thongsing Thammavong on the fringes of the Asia-Europe meeting on Monday

and Tuesday to be held in Vientiane, Fujimura told a Press conference. Preparations are also underway for him to hold one-on-one talks with the leaders of Cambodia, Poland and the European Union, government officials said. The Asian and European leaders are set to discuss various issues, including economic and regional affairs, Fujimura said.

Kyodo News

Xinhua

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GIANG HAI 09 VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI 09 VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-11-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (6) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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AGENT FOR: RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (517)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (517) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-11-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV QING PING HAI VOY NO (WP08)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING PING HAI VOY NO (WP08) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-11-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S TASNEE MINTL HATMAIL
COM:**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MATTYS VOY NO (1244)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATTYS VOY NO (1244) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-11-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (324N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (324N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-11-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVER GREEN SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Seven giant panda cubs that were recently born sleep while meeting with the public at the Chengdu Research Base for Giant Panda Breeding in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 1 Nov, 2012. The research base showed the public on Thursday seven of the eight giant pandas that it bred this year.

XINHUA

Airlines look to resume full flight schedules in New York area



Travellers surround a flight monitor showing cancelled flights at LaGuardia airport in New York on 28 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

NEW YORK, 2 Nov — Major US airlines moved to build up service in the New York area on Thursday, with the number of canceled flights easing as LaGuardia Airport re-opened for business in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. Airlines had canceled about 750 flights for Thursday as of late afternoon, according to flight-tracking service FlightAware.com. That was the lowest daily tally of halted flights since airlines began cutting their US flying on Sunday ahead of the storm.

Delta Air Lines expected to operate about half of its roughly 260 flights at LaGuardia on Thursday. At John F. Kennedy International, Delta operations are near the normal schedule, said spokesman Morgan Durrant. United Continental expected to have a "more-or-less normal schedule" of flights at Newark, New Jersey, where it is the dominant carrier, and JFK, according to spokesman Charles Hobart. "We're looking to concentrate any cancellations required by airport conditions to the United

Express regional operations," he added.

Meanwhile, American Airlines planned to build up to full schedules at LaGuardia and Newark. Spokesman Kent Powell said the AMR Corp unit added extra flights into JFK to assist customers that had been stranded by cancellations earlier in the week. New York-based JetBlue Airways said it planned to operate 80 percent of its total flights on Thursday, ramping up to a full schedule by Saturday. US Airways began flights at JFK and Newark on Thursday and will resume service at LaGuardia on Friday, spokeswoman Michelle Mohr said.

US carriers, which have canceled nearly 20,000 flights from Sunday through Thursday, have lost millions in revenue in Sandy's wake, airline watchers said. The New York-area airport closures had a trickle-down effect as airlines were forced to cut flights in other major cities. John Wensveen, head of airline advisory services at Radixx International, which provides distribution systems and management consulting, said the cost to airlines from Sandy was likely \$700 million to \$1 billion, including lost revenue from canceled flights and expenses involved in re-starting operations.

Reuters

Anti-river pollution unit formed in Upper Egypt

CAIRO, 2 Nov — An anti-Nile River pollution unit was formed in Luxor governorate, Upper Egypt to contain the leakage of oil slick, state media reported on Thursday. Aiming at a speedy response to an oil spill which pollutes the Nile river in Upper Egypt, the unit was authorized to regularly inspect any floating tourist ships or other facilities that discharge wastes into the river, said State Minister for Environment Affairs Mostafa Hussein Kamel.

"The unit has all powers to take legal procedures against violations," added Kamel. The oil spill in the Nile was first detected in Aswan on Saturday, and then it leaked into neighbouring

Luxor, Qena, Sohag and Asuit governorates, official news agency MENA reported.

Luxor governor Ezzat Saed told Xinhua on Thursday that "this is the first unit to be established in Egypt to prevent Nile contamination." He added his governorate will train 15 people from those working in the environment protection institution to tackle the river crisis. — Xinhua



An artwork is displayed at the Shanghai Art Fair 2012 in Shanghai, east China, on 1 Nov, 2012. A total of 146 galleries from 12 countries and regions participated in the fair that kicked off on Thursday. — XINHUA

Nuclear regulatory body starts studying disputed fault at Oi plant

TOKYO, 2 Nov — Japan's nuclear regulatory authority on Friday started a one-day investigation at Kansai Electric Power Co's Oi nuclear power plant in Fukui Prefecture to check whether a disputed fault running underneath it

should be viewed as active. Depending on the outcome of the investigation, the sole operating plant in the quake-prone country could be asked to shut down, just months after two of its reactors were allowed in July to restart having cleared a

safety screening process carried out by the Nuclear Regulation Authority's predecessor. It is the first time for the NRA to conduct an on-site inspection of a nuclear plant following its establishment in September. — Kyodo News

Life of Pi my most difficult film: Ang Lee

CHENNAI, 2 Nov—Oscar-winning filmmaker Ang Lee says his latest offering Life Of Pi, a 3D adventure drama, has been the most difficult film of his career.

“Undoubtedly this was the most difficult film of my career. It took me three and a half years and 3,000 crew members to complete the project. It was a herculean task to make an engaging story, which is only about a young boy on a lifeboat with few animals,” Lee told reporters here Wednesday.



Ang Lee

He is currently in India to promote the movie, which features Indian actors Suraj Sharma, Tabu and Irrfan.

Releasing 23 November, the movie is based on the novel of the same name by Canadian writer Yann Martel.

Lee says most of the computer graphics imagery (CGI) of the film was done in India.

“The CGI of the film was time consuming. It approximately took us about six months to complete the tiger. Most of the CGI was done in places such as Mumbai and Hyderabad”, said the filmmaker, known for movies like Brokeback Mountain and Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.—PTI



Hilary Duff gets her sixth tattoo

LONDON, 2 Nov—New mother Hilary Duff has got herself a sixth tattoo — a sparrow with the words ‘Stand By Me’ under it.

The 25-year-old singer-actress proudly tweeted an image of herself getting her tattoo at Shamrock Social Club in Hollywood, where she had got her third piece of body art on her forearm, reported *Daily Mail* online.

In addition to her new bird, she has the French

phrase ‘ma petite amie’ on the upper right side of her midsection.

She also has the word ‘Shine’ on her right hand middle finger, plus a shining star on the back of her neck just below the hairline.

The star also has a small anchor located on her inner left ankle, and finally the phrase ‘Let It Be’ on the outside of her right foot.

Regarding her foot tattoo she has been quoted as saying,

“I have a hectic, crazy life. Things are crazy all around me, and I get stressed out. It is like, I am just one little person, let it be. And that is what it is!”

Meanwhile Duff, mother to six-month-old son Luca, has been experimenting with various fitness activities as she continues her post-pregnancy weight loss regime. She was recently seen leaving a Shadow Boxing class with her trainer in Los Angeles.—PTI

George Clooney is distant cousin of Abraham Lincoln



George Clooney

LOS ANGELES, 2 Nov—Aunt Rosemary was not George Clooney’s only famous relative. You can add a certain Civil War American president to the Oscar-winning actor’s family tree.

Politics has apparently run in the activist actor’s blood for centuries, as website Ancestry.com on Thursday revealed that the “Ocean’s 11” star is distantly related to President Abraham Lincoln. According to Ancestry.com, Clooney is the half-first cousin five times removed from Lincoln, the 16th president. The genealogy website breaks down the connection, explaining the “half” means that two of their ancestors were half-siblings — Lincoln’s mother Nancy Hanks was the half-sister of Clooney’s 4th great-grandmother Mary Ann Sparrow.

Hanks and Sparrow shared the same mother, Lucy Hanks, but had different fathers. Lucy Hanks was Lincoln’s maternal grandmother as well as the 5th great-grandmother of Clooney.—Reuters

Brad Pitt donates \$100,000 to gay marriage campaign

LONDON, 2 Nov—Brad Pitt has donated \$100,000 to a campaign in support of gay marriage.

The Moneyball actor — who has previously said he won’t wed fiancée Angelina Jolie until same-sex marriage is legalized — is backing the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) in their efforts to campaign for marriage equality in Maine, Maryland, Minnesota and Washington State.

committed couples to have the ability to marry.

“If you’re like me, you don’t want to have to ask yourself on the day after the election, what else could I have done?”

HRC president Chad Griffin said the organisation is “proud” to be supported by the Hollywood superstar.

He said: “[Brad’s money] delivers vital resources into these campaigns.

We’re proud to be



Brad Pitt recently admitted he can’t see himself marrying until gay marriage is legalised.

In an email to HRC supporters, Brad wrote: “It’s unbelievable to me that people’s lives and relationships are literally being voted on in a matter of days. “But that’s the system we have and I’m not going to back down from the fight for loving and

working with him as we show that fundamental fairness will win at the ballot box.” Brad — who raises six children with Angelina — recently admitted he can’t see himself marrying until gay marriage is legalised. Asked about his wedding plans, he said: “I’m still hoping we’ll figure out our marriage equality in the States before then.”

PTI

Dating is hard: Ashley Greene

LONDON, 2 Oct—Actor Ashley Greene admits her hectic career makes it hard to fall in love again. The 25-year-old, who has previously dated Joe Jonas and Chace Crawford, admits she struggles to be in a relationship because of the nature of the industry.

“Dating is a hard, hard thing when you have this job,” contactmusic.com quoted Greene as saying.

“Sometimes I wish I could just go back to Florida and, like, date my hometown boyfriend. Listen, when I’m dating a guy and he says, ‘I

don’t like press,’ and then says, ‘Let’s go to Katana for dinner,’ I’m like, ‘Really? You don’t want to just walk down the road to some

dive? You don’t want to get photographed, but you want to go to a place where you know there’s paparazzi,” she added.—PTI



Ashley Greene



Andy Murray

Murray pole-axed in Paris

PARIS, 2 Nov — Andy Murray wasted a match point before being knocked out 5-7, 7-6, 6-2 by Polish qualifier Jerzy Janowicz following a sloppy display in the third round of the Paris Masters on Thursday. Britain's Murray lost focus as he served for the match in the second set and was then battered by the hard hitting Janowicz, who ended the contest with a forehand winner and collapsed in joy.

"He probably gained some confidence from that (match point saved) and started playing better," Murray told a news conference. "He played a good tiebreak, played aggressive, he hits a very flat ball, so when he's hitting it well it comes through the court a lot." —Reuters

Soccer

Man City to run rule over Japanese wunderkind Ishige

TOKYO, 2 Nov — Premier League champions Manchester City are set to bring Japanese wunderkind Hideki Ishige to England to run the rule over the midfielder, his club Shimizu S-Pulse said. However, contrary to Japanese reports, City have yet to make an offer to sign the Asian Youth Player of the year. The teenager has shone in recent months and has been key to Shimizu's march to the Nabisco Cup final on Saturday, as well as their late surge in the league.

Although Shimizu team manager Afshin Ghotbi wants to keep the 18-year-old within his ranks, he is also keen to give Ishige experience of a spell at City. "If you want to build top-class players, you have to give them various experiences and opportunities to see first hand what the world level is about," Ghotbi said. "And what better experience for Ishige than to train with the first team of Manchester City, the champions of England, and have (manager Roberto) Mancini see him first hand and train with some of the top players in the world," he told Japan's *Kyodo News*. Ishige is set to spend time with City in January. The former Iranian national coach said other European clubs were also keen on the teenager.

Reuters

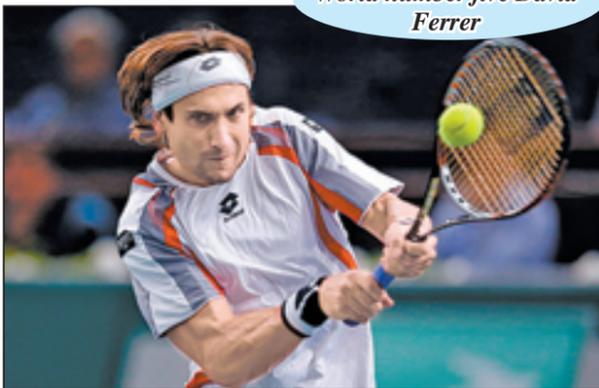
Ferrer to use Auckland for final Australian Open warm-up

WELLINGTON, 2 Nov — World number five David Ferrer will complete his Australian Open preparations by seeking a record-equalling fourth Auckland Open title, organizers have said. Spaniard Ferrer, who has enjoyed his best year on the ATP tour by winning six titles on four different surfaces, has captured the past two titles in Auckland, which concludes two days before the year's first grand slam begins in Melbourne.

The 30-year-old also reached at least the last eight at all four grand slam tournaments this season, the first time he has achieved

the feat in his 12-year professional career. Ferrer, who has won 17 career titles, has a proud pedigree on the courts of New Zealand's largest city, winning three times in eight visits. If he claims the title at next year's tournament that runs from 7-12 January, he will join Australia's Roy Emerson as the only four-time winners of the title. Emerson won in 1960 and then again from 1965-67.

"That will be a special day in the tournament's history," tournament director Karl Budge said when announcing Ferrer's decision to defend his title



World number five David Ferrer

and seek to join Emerson. Ferrer could also become the second player, after Emerson, to win the title in three successive years. New Zealand's Onny Parun also won three Auckland titles in 1973, 1975 and 1976. He was beaten in the 1974 final by Bjorn Borg.

Former world number seven Mardy Fish, who has reached three grand slam quarter-finals in his career, has also been confirmed in the draw for Auckland, having last played in 2007, where he lost to eventual winner Ferrer in the semi-finals." —Reuters

Klinsmann open to discussion over Donovan's future

MIAMI, 2 Nov — United States national team coach Juergen Klinsmann says he will meet with all-time leading goalscorer Landon Donovan after the forward said he was unsure about his future in the game. LA Galaxy forward Donovan has missed the bulk of his country's World Cup qualifying campaign so far due to injuries and in recent interviews has thrown doubt on whether he has the motivation to continue in

the game. "After the (Major League Soccer) playoffs we are going to sit down and talk. He is always in our plans, absolutely," Klinsmann said on a conference call with reporters on Thursday.

"It is really down to himself what he wants to further achieve in his career, what he wants to. Whatever he decides to do will be respected by us," he added. While the loss of one of their key players, who has played



in three World Cup finals, would be a blow to the US, Klinsmann felt Donovan had shown courage to discuss his feelings in public and said he understood the player's perspective.

"If it is really courageous of him to talk openly about what is going through his mind. I can understand all those thoughts," said the former Germany coach.

Reuters

Landon Donovan



Hideki Ishige

Photo News



Players of Iran celebrate during the awarding ceremony at the 9th Asian Youth Boys' Volleyball Championship in Teheran, capital of Iran, on 1 Nov, 2012. Iran beat China 3-2 in the final to claim the title on Thursday. — XINHUA

Vietnam to host first paragliding tournament

HANOI, 2 Nov — The first ever paragliding competition will be held in Vietnam, during 16-18 November, Vietnam's state-run news agency VNA reported on Thursday.

Quoting Vietnam's General Department of Sports and Physical Training, VNA reported

that the event, held in northern Vietnam's Hoa Binh Province, some 60 km west of capital Hanoi, will draw 30 pilots from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The event is co-organized by the General Department of Sports and

Physical Training, Hanoi Paragliding Club and Hoa Binh Provincial Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism.

There are about 200 Vietnamese pilots around the country, practising paragliding, according to VNA.

Xinhua

Fiorentina get first win at Genoa in 30 years

ROME, 2 Nov — Fiorentina chalked up their first win in thirty years at Genoa with a 1-0 win on Thursday. Manuel Pasqual scored the only goal to award the visitors their first away win this season as they moved

up to fifth in Serie A.

Pasqual's 14th-minute strike gave the visitors a lead they never surrendered in a fiery clash that saw eight players booked. Genoa's recent woes show no sign of ending however,

as they slumped to their third successive defeat.

Luigi Del Neri has failed to deliver a point since taking charge of Genoa 11 days ago and will be champing at the bit to have star striker Marco Borriello back. — Xinhua

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(3-11-12 09:30 am ~ 4-11-12 09:30 am) MST
 * News
 * Vietnam Expo 2012 in Myanmar
 * News
 * Talking Statues (Peace Creator)
 * News
 * Let's Study the Words (Part-II) "Donkey & Cat"
 * News
 * Best Make-Up Artist Toe Toe and His Glamorous Grandeur
 * News
 * Asia Europe People Forum-9
 * Mogok: The Colourful Land of Rubies

* News
 * Snow Wonderland
 * Taste of Myanmar (Kho Taung Noodle)
 * News
 * Music Programme
 * News
 * For Secure and smooth Transportation
 * Myanmar Movie "Touching Bonds"

MYANMAR TV

(3-11-2012, Saturday)

7:00 am

1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatahandi Paritta

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am

3. Nice & Sweet Song

8:20 am

4. Poem Garden

11:00 am

5. Martial Song

11:10 am

6. Musical Programme

11:20 am

7. Game For Children

11:45 am

8. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News

1:30 pm

9. Teleplay

1:55 pm

10. Song of National Races

2:15 pm

11. Songs Programme

2:30 pm

12. One Village & One Product

4:05 pm

13. Cultural Dances

4:45 pm

14. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Year (Psychology)

5:00 pm

15. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:05 pm

16. Performance with Song

5:25 pm

17. Beautiful "ASEAN"

5:35 pm

18. Documentary

6:20 pm

19. Celebraity and Dinner

8:00 pm

20. News

21. Cartoon Series

22. TV Drama Series

23. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

Second soil test for Shwegondine overpass bridge project



YANGON, 2 Nov — With the aim of building an overpass bridge at Shwegondine Junction in Bahan Township where there is always a lot of traffic, soil test is being carried out for the second time.

The root cause of traffic congestion on the main road of Shwegondine Junction is that there are divergent roads on both sides of the main road and there is a single exist for Dhammazedi road.

"It is required to implement the project

as soon as possible as traffic jam has worsened considerably as a result of new car arrivals", a road user said.

It is learnt that overpass bridges will be built on busy and bustling junctions in Yangon. Now, Hledan and Bayintnaung overpass bridges are under construction and soil tests are underway for construction of Shwegondine overpass bridge. It is learnt that there is no plan to build an overpass bridge at Tamwe roundabout. — *Kyemon*

Sandy forecasts were on target, but message was a bit garbled

NEW YORK, 2 Nov — The first predictions of the monster storm that slammed into the East Coast of the United States came nearly a week before Sandy made landfall on Monday, giving state and local officials ample notice to issue warnings and make preparations for the threat. But in the aftermath of the storm that left a swath of destruction across 15 states and cut power to more than 8 million people, some meteorologists question the federal government's decision not to issue hurricane or tropical storm warnings for Sandy north of the Carolinas.

"I think the meteorological community as a whole did a very strong job on this storm," said Marshall Moss, vice president for forecasting at AccuWeather, a private forecasting company based in Pennsylvania. Preparations were made, evacuations were called for, and "many, many lives were saved," Moss said in an interview on Thursday.

But AccuWeather and others are criticizing the decision by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Centre (NHC) not to issue hurricane warnings for Sandy north of North



Boats damaged during Hurricane Sandy are seen on an island off Sea Bright, New Jersey, on 1 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

Carolina. To some, the rationale was semantic. Because Sandy was merging with a winter storm, when it reached land it would no longer be considered a tropical storm.

Reuters

Storm Sandy blamed for at least 98 deaths in US, Canada

NEW YORK, 2 Nov — Deaths in the United States and Canada from Sandy, the massive storm that hit the US East Coast this week, rose to at least 98 on Thursday after more fatalities were reported by officials in New York City, New Jersey and elsewhere. The number of dead in New York City rose to 40, police said. At least 20 of the city's dead were found on Staten Island, whose southeast flank took the full brunt of the storm surge.

In New Jersey, authorities said the death toll in the state had reached 13 as search-and-rescue teams gained access to devastated areas. The storm also killed at least 69 people in the Caribbean, including at least 54 in Haiti and 11 in Cuba, before hitting the US coast on Monday, authorities said. The following are reported and confirmed North American deaths related

to the storm. State authorities have warned the numbers are subject to change and could go up or down. A decrease may occur if the cause of death is later deemed not to be a direct result of the storm.

* New York state: 48 (40 in New York City and eight elsewhere in the state)

* New Jersey: 13

* Maryland: 11

* Pennsylvania: 11

* West Virginia: 6

* Connecticut: 4

* Virginia: 2

* North Carolina: 2

* Toronto, Canada: 1

* The captain of *HMS Bounty*, a tall ship that sank 125 miles off the southeast coast of Hatteras, North Carolina, is still missing. * Massachusetts state police said a traffic accident that killed one man during the time of the storm was not related to the storm or weather. — *Reuters*

Fuel scarce, East Coast struggles to recover

NEW YORK, 2 Nov — Rescuers searched flooded homes for survivors, drivers lined up for hours to get scarce gasoline and millions remained without power on Thursday as New York City and nearby towns struggled to recover from one of the biggest storms to hit the United States.

New York subway trains crawled back to limited service after being shut down since Sunday, but the lower half of Manhattan still lacked power and surrounding areas such as Staten Island, the New Jersey shore and the city of Hoboken remained crippled from a record storm surge and flooding.

At least 95 people died in the "superstorm" that ravaged the Northeastern United States on Monday. Officials said the number could rise as rescuers searched house-by-house in coastal towns. "I worked all my life, and everything I had is



People wait in line to fill their gas containers after Hurricane Sandy closed most gas stations in Allenhurst, New Jersey, on 1 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

right there," said Bob Stewart, 59, standing on the Jersey Shore beach in the town of Seaside Heights and looking at the pile of debris that was once his home. "I put my life

right there." New Jersey Governor Chris Christie said on Thursday that nearly a 1,000 people had been rescued by authorities. In blackened New

York City neighborhoods, some residents complained there was a lack of police and feared an increase in crime. Some were also concerned about traffic safety. — *Reuters*

Establishment of diplomatic relation with the Republic of Iceland so as to extend relations with international community approved



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives seen at third day session.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session continued for third day, at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.10 am today, attended by

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 483 MPs.

At record-setting session, the bill revoking the

Myanmar Five Star Shipping Corporation Law (1964) and the bill revoking the Land Acquisition (Mines) Act and the bill revoking the Public Welfare Services Protection

Act, were put on record, assuming that Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved these bills.

Hluttaw recorded the proposals on putting of five

village-tracts in Mongngaw sub-township in Kyaukme Township, Shan State in Namhsan Township and formation of two new wards in Mantung Township.

Then, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker read out the message sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker on the linkages between Hluttaw and the committee, the commission and the organizations formed by Hluttaws and Union Government and Union-level organizations. And Hluttaw decided to put it on record.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker submitted the message sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker on the resolution of the

Constitutional Tribunal. And Hluttaw decided to put it on record.

UBaShein of Kyaukpyu Constituency, U Nyan Lin of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.3 and U Sai Paung Nup of Shan State Constituency No. 12 held discussion on the establishment of diplomatic relation with the Republic of Iceland. With respect to the above discussions, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw explained that Myanmar should establish diplomatic relation with the Republic of Iceland so as to extend the relations with the globe. And Hluttaw decided to approve it.

(See page 9)

Environmental conservation first: Union minister

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov—Environmental conservation must be given priority in developing mining sector, Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung said at the Seminar on Sustainable Development and Mine Pollution Control at Sedona Hotel of Yangon on 29 October.

He also said the ministry is adhering to laws and rules regarding the environmental conservation in mining sector and invited investments in the country's resource-rich sector.

The seminar is the first-ever seminar organized by the Ministry of Mines and Japanese Oil, Gas and

Metals National Corporation (JOGMNC).

The Union minister met the director and party of JOGMNC, Australian and Chinese mining entrepreneurs, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua separately at the hotel and discussed investment matters.—MNA

MRF members to observe agricultural sector in India

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Nov—Under the programme of Myanmar Rice Federation, a 28-member delegation led by Joint Secretaries of Myanmar Rice Federation U Myo Thura and U Aung Zaw Oo left here for India yesterday morning. They will study production process, milling, producing value added

goods, trading, research and techniques for promoting rice and agricultural sector in New Delhi and Kolkata of India up to 8 November.

They were seen off by Myanmar Rice Federation Vice-President U Aung Than Oo, general secretary U Ye Min Aung and officials concerned at Yangon

International Airport.

The delegation comprised respective ministers of Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago Regions, region managers of the Ministry of Commerce, engineers and officials from Myanmar Rice Federation and Myanmar Peasants' Association.

MNA



Car models present automobiles displayed at the 5th Zhengzhou International Auto Exhibition in Zhengzhou, capital of central China's Henan Province on 2 Nov, 2012. Over 700 automobiles of more than 300 exhibitors from home and abroad attended the five-day event which kicked off on Friday.—Xinhua

Thomson Reuters operating profit down, trading pressured

NEW YORK, 2 Nov—Thomson Reuters Corp reported on Friday a 15 percent fall in operating profit because of declining revenue and higher costs at its division that serves the financial industry.

The slip in profit in the third quarter underscored the problems facing some of Thomson Reuters' clients, such as banks and brokerages that are reducing staff and trimming costs to cope with increased regulation and the struggling global economy. At the same time, Thomson Reuters is investing in customer service for its flagship product Eikon, which targets the financial sector.

While the global news and information provider

reaffirmed its 2012 forecast, its underlying operating profit, which excludes divestitures, fell to \$585 million from \$690 million. The corresponding margin slipped to 18.5 percent from 21.6 percent in the same period a year ago.

The company said that in the third quarter last year, its underlying profit margin was "the high-water mark" for 2011.

"The big headline is the decline in operating profit," said Claudio Aspesi, senior analyst at Sanford Bernstein & Co. "It's clear they need to be aggressive on costs. There is no way of knowing when the top-line will recover."

Third-quarter revenue from ongoing businesses this year rose 1 percent before currency changes to \$3.2 billion.

Reuters



Summary of Observations at 09:30 hr MST on 2-11-2012

During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Taninthayi Region and Mon State, isolated in Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and Shan State and weather has been partly cloudy in remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C)) above November average temperatures in Lower Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Regions and Chin, Rakhine and Mon States and about November average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperature was (9°C)) in Loilem. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was 1.06 inches in Ye.—NLM