

Norway encourages its companies to invest in Myanmar

Norwegian companies which are famous for telecommunication, oil and gas, hydropower and fertilizer sectors are going to do investment in Myanmar

Norway continues to fully support efforts of Myanmar for ending violence in Rakhine State, peace making processes

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—President U Thein Sein received Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this evening.

Also present at the call were Union ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Aung Kyi, U Soe Thein, U Tin Naing Thein, U Khin Yi, Dr Mya Aye, Dr Kan Zaw, Dr Ko Ko Oo, departmental heads, Norwegian Foreign Minister Mr Espen Barth Eide, Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kata Nordgaard and high level officials.

The President said the two countries have cooperated in various sectors plus friendship and the trip of the Norwegian PM would further strengthen the cooperation.

The visiting PM said opening of the Norwegian embassy in Myanmar is a sign of improving relations between Myanmar and Norway and the world is applauding the developments of Myanmar. He said Norway wished to increase trade and commercial relations between the two countries as there are plenty of opportunities. The Norwegian PM revealed opportunities for mutual

cooperation in energy, hydropower, oil and natural gas, fishery and communications sectors.

The President said the Norwegian ambassador is leading the bid to obtain aids for land mines clearance, education, health and settlement which followed peace process. He said Myanmar's democratic government has turned only one year and seven months. He also revealed that the government is tackling the unprecedented challenges like the communal rife in Rakhine State. The President said the government is working to ensure inclusiveness of all political organizations in political reforms. He said dissidents about 20 years ago have become colleagues.

The President said the country is addressing the issue of one of the world's longest ethnic conflicts amidst various difficulties. Agreements have been reached with 10 out of 11 ethnic armed groups and engagements have been started with the remaining one, he said. The President hoped for the peace of the entire nation soon.

The President said the political reforms must be

carried out simultaneously with the economic reforms. Suffered from 20 years of economic sanctions, Myanmar lacks capital, know-how and human resources, he said, thanking Norway for being the first country to ease the sanctions. Foreign investment law, monetary policy, trade policy and investment policy have been made internationally friendly, he said. If the natural resources of Myanmar could be exported to Norway as value-added products, it would benefit both countries, he said. He underscored the employment for Myanmar citizens as an urgent need. He hoped for emergence of the factories and workshops that could offer many job opportunities. He displayed natural gas, forestry, rubber, foodstuff and technological sectors as the areas of potential cooperation.

Norwegian Prime Minister said that his country is willing to boost the economic relations with Myanmar and has encouraged Norwegian companies to invest in Myanmar, and economic sanctions on Myanmar have already been lifted.

Norwegian companies which are famous for



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein cordially shakes hands with Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.

MNA

telecommunication, oil and gas, hydro power and fertilizer sectors are going to do investment in Myanmar, and Norway was poor about 100 years ago and it has become rich thanks to the foreign investment, he added.

second yellow card.

Wayne Rooney also missed a penalty for United on the stroke of halftime but it never looked like proving costly.

United have 24 points from 10 games and will remain on top if Chelsea (22 points) fail to win at Swansea City later on Saturday (3 p.m. British Time).

Champions Manchester City, in third place on 21 points, conclude the day's Premier League action with a testing trip to West Ham United (5.30 p.m. British Time).

Reuters

The Prime Minister also expressed his delight for Norway's assistance for building democracy and peace in Myanmar and for achievement for peace with ten armed groups.

He welcomed the efforts of the government for ending and conflicts in Rakhine State and for forming the investigation commission for the conflicts.

He also pledged that he continues to fully support the peace making processes and human rights, child

rights and equal rights for men and women.

President U Thein Sein thanked the Norwegian Prime Minister for sharing the experiences and reforms of changing the country from the poor to the rich.

He also thanked Norway for its humanitarian assistance and environmental conservation and peace sectors and expressed his hope that Norway would help the education, health and human resource development sectors in Myanmar.—MNA

Strong earthquake hits outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—A strong earthquake of magnitude 6.1 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Mindanao, the Philippines) about 2100 miles East-

South East of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 00 hrs, 47 min, 36 sec M.S.T today, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.—MNA

Van Persie helps Man United sink Arsenal

LONDON, 3 Nov—Robin van Persie was on target against his old club as

Manchester United brushed Arsenal aside for a 2-1 victory that sent them to the



top of the Premier League on Saturday.

The prolific Dutchman, who joined United from Arsenal in August having scored 37 league goals for the Gunners last season, needed less than three minutes to put the hosts ahead after a mistake by Thomas Vermaelen and Patrice Evra wrapped up a comfortable win with a 67th minute header.

Santi Cazorla netted in injury time for an otherwise disappointing Arsenal, who were reduced to 10 men after the break when recently returned midfielder Jack Wilshere was sent off for a

Norwegian Prime Minister and wife arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—A goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of Norway Mr Jens Stoltenberg and wife arrived here by special flight at 7.10 pm today.

They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife, Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw and wife, officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Charge d' Affaires of Norwegian Embassy to Myanmar and officials.

The goodwill delegation was also welcomed by National Races girls from Fine Arts Department by presenting banquets and the Guard of Honour at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

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Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg and wife being welcomed by officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Project for Construction of Yedwington Rural Health Center in Bago Region

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—The Government of Japan, Under its Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme, granted US\$103,782 for a humanitarian program entitled "The Project for Construction of Yedwington Rural Health Center in Bago Region."

Mr Ichiro Maruyama, Charge d' Affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan, and U Myint Sein, Chairman of Yedwington Village Health Committee, signed the grant contract on October 31, 2012.

Yedwington Village,

Korean furniture maker Enob establishes Myanmar factory

YANGON, 3 Nov—Korean furniture maker Enob has established a factory in Myanmar under the leadership of a Korean designer and selling ready-made sofa settees and mattresses.

The special orders for hotels, houses, restaurants, offices, hospitals and clinics could be made at the factory which imported

Football Tourney concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—The prize presentation of the second Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman's Cup U-25 Men's Football Tournament was held at the sports ground

which is about 93 miles away from Yangon, situated on the west bank of the Sittoung River in Nyaunglebin Township. Sub-Rural Health Center (SHC) of Yedwington Village, which is 5 miles east of Peinzaloke Station Hospital on Yangon-Mandalay Road was established in 2000 to improve health care services in five neighbouring villages. In 2010, the Ministry of Health upgraded this SHC as the Rural Health Center (RHC) for improving health care services in seven village tracts and 23 villages in Nyaunglebin Township.

Total beneficiaries of this RHC increased up to 13,398 people from 2,467 households.

Although Yedwington SHC has been upgraded as the RHC in 2010, there is no suitable building in the village yet and local residents and the Village Health Committee are facing shortage of fund to construct a new RHC building which is in line with the guideline and standard of the Ministry of Health.

In order to help providing better health services for local residents of Yedwington Village and its surrounding

in International Living, Fashion and Cosmetic Exhibition that is being organized at Tatmadaw Convention Centre till 4 November.—NLM



Sofa settees and mattresses seen at International living, fashion and cosmetic exhibition.

NLM

in Pindaya Township on 1 November. In the final match, Myindwin (Ywangan Township) beat Zaydan (Pindaya Township) 1-0.

Officials of Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading

Body presented prizes to the respective winners.

Chairman of the Leading Body U Htoo Ko Ko awarded K 300,000 and championship trophy to Myindwin team.

MNA

Union Foreign Affairs Minister receives Swiss counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received H.E Mr Didier Burkhalter, Federal Councillor and Minister of

Foreign Affairs of Switzerland and party at his office, at 9 am today and exchanged views on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation.

MNA

Coordination meeting for construction of gems market held

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—Union Minister at the President Office Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Thein Nyunt delivered an address at the coordination meeting for construction of Nay Pyi Taw Dekkhinathiri Gems Market held at City Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee here yesterday noon. At the meeting, the union minister said that 70 percent of road construction, electrification and communications for gems market has been completed. He urged officials concerned to accomplish two-storey gems

market construction project in March 2013 as the first phase, land reclamation on 2.5 acres for gems workshop plots have already been reclaimed and it is needed to report necessities as soon as possible.

Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung called for timely completion of the tasks.

Officials clarified construction of gems market. The union ministers viewed scale model of one stop service centre to be constructed in the gems market.

MNA

Labour exchange offices, clinics in Bago Region inspected



Union Labour Minister U Maung Myint meeting with staff from Social Security Board of the Ministry.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint this morning arrived at Social Security Board branch office and clinic under the Ministry of Labour in Pyu Township of Bago Region.

The union minister explained the importance of Social Security Board and urged the staff to provide benefits and health care services to insurance

workers.

The union minister proceeded to region head office of Bago Region Labour Department where he called for the staff to change mindset, rules and regulations in accord with changeable system, to carry out the tasks for public job opportunities, to issue labour cards with the use of mobile labour exchange office so as to reduce transportation cost, to ensure work safety

for laborers and to fulfill necessary office use machines in order to run office work in line with e-Government system.

Then, the union minister went to Indakaw Social Security Board clinic and urged the health staff to cure the patients with a sense of responsibility and to make field treatment at factories, workshops if necessary.

MNA

WORLD

Obama, Romney make closing argument **US**

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov — US President Barack Obama and his Republican challenger Mitt Romney on Friday made closing argument for their candidacy to become the next president of the United States, as they sprint towards the election day. In duelling op-ed published on CNN.com, the two candidates made their respective case for presidency. Obama touted his record, saying the country is recovering from the “worst economic crisis since the Great Depression,” and “the war in Iraq is over, Osama bin Laden is dead, and our heroes are coming home.”

Noting the job has not been done, Obama implored voters to choose his vision of future in next Tuesday’s election, saying if he succeeds in the election, he will invest in education to enhance competitiveness, revamp the tax code to restore fairness, see through the winding down of wars to focus on nation building at home and deficit reduction, protect welfare for the poor, elderly or disabled.

Romney, on the other hand, offered a different path. Extolling American exceptionalism, Romney reiterated in his op-ed his five-point plan to create 12 million jobs, including encouraging domestic energy production, empowering states and bringing in the private

sector to improve education, develop international trade while protecting American workers, cut federal spending and balance budget, putting in place pro-business tax code and regulations.

Both candidates described their visions as “real change,” while blasting the other one, as they do in campaign events in recent days.

US voters are casting their ballots in the presidential election next Tuesday, and both Obama and Romney are touring battleground states in the last stretch of the campaign, trying to swing more independents while firing up their base.—Xinhua



A 2 Nov, 2012, photo shows an oil refinery operated by JX Nippon Oil & Energy Corp in Muroran, Hokkaido. JX Nippon said the same day it will shut down refining operations at the plant by the end of March 2014.—KYODO NEWS



Experts of an investigation team of the Nuclear Regulation Authority conduct a study at Kansai Electric Power Co’s Oi nuclear power station in the town of Oi, Fukui Prefecture, on 2 Nov, 2012, during an investigation to check whether a disputed fault running underneath the plant should be viewed as active.—KYODO NEWS

UN Security Council approves busy agenda for November

UNSC

UNITED NATIONS, 3 Nov — November will be a busy month for the United Nations Security Council, with consultations that address almost all of the “global hotspots” of conflict, said Indian Ambassador to the UN Hardeep Puri on Friday, who holds the rotating presidency this month.

Almost every global hotspot will be covered in the work of the Security Council during the month of November, Puri said at a press conference concerning the agenda that was approved by the 15-member Council on Friday morning. The agenda includes consultations on

South Sudan and Sudan, the conflict in Syria and the Middle East, Somalia, sanctions on Libya, the International Criminal Court, situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Western Sahara region, he said.

The work programme is impacted by the UN’s closure for three days earlier this week due to Hurricane Sandy. The former Security Council President Gert Rosenthal of Guatemala, who holds the presidency for October, was “not able to convene all the scheduled meetings so we’ve tried to take them on board,” said Puri.—Xinhua

Killings by Syrian rebels on video appear to be war crime

Syria

BEIJING, 3 Nov — The United Nations human rights office says a video that appears to show Syrian rebels killing soldiers who had surrendered, appears to constitute a war crime that should be prosecuted. The incident looks to be the latest atrocity committed by opposition fighters seeking to topple President Bashar al-Assad. A disturbing scene posted on-line.

Syrian rebels appear to be executing 28 government soldiers on Thursday, after attacking three army checkpoints around Saraqeb, a town on Syria’s main north-south highway.

Video footage shows some of the dead were shot after they had surrendered.

Rebels berated them, before appearing to fire round after round into their bodies as they lay on the ground.

The UN’s human rights office said on Friday that the amateur video must be verified but it appears to

constitute a war crime that should be investigated and prosecuted.

Rupert Colville, Spokes-person, UN High Commissioner of Human Rights, said, “We need to examine this carefully. It will be examined carefully, but the allegations are that these were soldiers who were no longer combatants. And therefore, at this point it looks very likely that this is a war crime, another one. There’s a lot of evidence for many of these crimes that have been taking place, this video, if it’s verified, if the details become a little clearer, could well be part of that evidence.”

Reports of serious human rights abuses by elements within the armed opposition have been on the rise.

The latest footage, which has spread across the world, has dealt a further blow to the rebels’ image and is embarrassing their foreign supporters.—Xinhua

Spain, Italy might be first recipients of ECB aid

Europe

LONDON, 3 Nov — Spain and Italy, which are facing struggling economic prospects, are likely to be the first countries to go cap in hand to the European Central Bank (ECB), asking for help, a leading expert warned on Friday. “We think that in Italy and Spain the liquidity problems will persist and eventually they will be the first customers of the Outright Monetary Transactions (OMT) programme,” Angus Armstrong, director of macroeconomic research at the National Institute for Economic and Social Research (NIESR), said.

The NIESR said in its latest report published this week the outlook for the Italian economy was poor, predicting that the Italian economy would contract by 2.3 percent this year, and 0.7 percent in 2013.

The report, co-authored by Armstrong, said the ECB’s OMT programme had reduced the risk of insolvency

but there were longer-term challenges centered around lower capital ratios which Italian banks have, compared to the European average.

Spain’s prospects were similarly poor, with the economy likely to be in recession in 2012 and 2013, and GDP falling by 1.8 percent this year and 1.3 percent next year, the NIESR forecast.—Xinhua

Azeri president hails ties with Russia

BAKU, 3 Nov — Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev said on Friday relations between Azerbaijan and Russia were developing successfully in all fields. Aliyev made the applause when meeting Russian delegation led by Svetlana Orlova, deputy speaker of Russia’s Federation Council of Federal Assembly and co-chair of Azerbaijan-Russia Interparliamentary Commission.

The Azeri leader stressed the role of parliaments in strengthening bilateral ties and underlined the importance of exchange of experience in developing cooperation, according to an official press release. Orlova briefed the president on the activities of the Azerbaijan-Russia Interparliamentary Commission and lauded Azerbaijan’s socioeconomic development.

Russian-Azerbaijani cooperation in culture, education and economy has seen steady development. The two leaders agreed to expand bilateral relations in various spheres.—Xinhua



Vehicles are covered by snow in Hohhot, capital of north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 3 Nov, 2012. A cold wave hit northern parts of China these days, bringing snow to Inner Mongolia.—XINHUA

FTC staff recommends Google be sued over patents: source

Technology

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov—A Federal Trade Commission staff report has recommended that the government sue Google for violating US antitrust law because it asked courts to stop the sale of some products that infringe its essential patents, a source told Reuters on Thursday.

The five-member commission is inclined to vote in favor of suing Google

Inc, the Internet search engine company, according to the source, who declined to be identified to protect business relationships. Bloomberg News was the first to report the staff recommendation on Thursday.

Apple Inc, Google and Microsoft Corp have sued each other many times in various countries, each alleging that their respective patents are being infringed by rivals in the highly

competitive smartphone market. In many cases, the companies ask that their rivals' products to be banned from stores.

In a few cases, the patents involved are considered "standard essential patents," which holders pledged to license on fair and reasonable terms.

Many antitrust enforcers believe it is inappropriate for companies to ask for sales bans based on the infringement of essential patents. Google has sued both Apple and Microsoft in the United States, saying the companies infringed on standard essential patents, according to Florian Mueller, an expert on the smartphone patent wars.

The FTC is looking into a long list of complaints brought by rivals of the search company, which is also accused of using its dominance to squash rivals in vertical search areas such as shopping and travel.

Google declined to

discuss the report, saying "we take our commitments to license on fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory terms very seriously."

FTC Chairman Jon Leibowitz said in mid-September that he expected a decision in the case by the end of the year. A decision could be a lawsuit or, more likely, a settlement. Google has settled with US law enforcement agencies in the past.

For example, it settled with the FTC following privacy gaffes during the botched roll out of its social network, Buzz, and later paid \$22.5 million to settle charges that it bypassed the privacy settings of customers using Apple's Safari browser.

Google also paid a \$500 million settlement in 2011 to the Justice Department for knowingly accepting illegal advertisements from Canadian pharmacies selling in the United States.

Reuters



Australia's photographer Lui Weber managed to snap a rare caterpillar, which is characterized by a set of teeth-like markings on its head uncannily like a human skull.

XINHUA



Inside view of the new headquarters of Google France before its official inauguration in Paris on 6 Dec, 2011.

—REUTERS

Over 20 million tweets sent as Sandy struck

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Nov — Twitter users flocked to the micro-messaging network this week as Hurricane Sandy swept through the eastern US seaboard, sending more than 20 million tweets about the storm between Saturday and Thursday, the company said. This far exceeds the 13.7 million tweets sent during the Super Bowl in February, typically the largest media event of the year.

Founded in 2006, Twitter has sought to position itself as a "second screen" media product that users can pull up on their smartphones while watching events like the

Super Bowl or the Olympics on television.

But the service has shone as a communication channel during major disasters, such as in the wake of the 2011 tsunami in Japan.

Twitter, which has been susceptible to occasional outages, stayed up glitch-free this week, serving at times as a vital source of information for afflicted residents. The number of times that users in New York City loaded their home timeline from a mobile device peaked around 9 pm on Monday night, around the time an explosion at a Consolidated Edison

transformer knocked out power, more than doubling the total from the previous two days, the company said, without providing details.



A man walks past a tree, which has fallen over during Hurricane Sandy, in Falls Church, Virginia on 31 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

Technology

The 20 million tweets included the terms "sandy," "hurricane," "#sandy," and "#hurricane," the company said. — Reuters

CCAMLR agreement on marine protection of Antarctica fails

Science

CANBERRA, 3 Nov — The plan of creating the world's largest marine protected area (MPA) to protect Antarctica's Ross Sea ecosystem has failed, as the 25-member Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) concluded in Hobart.

The 25-member Commission for CCAMLR met in Hobart this week to decide which of the seas around the frozen continent would become a MPA.

New Zealand and the United States had tabled a proposal for an MPA of 2.27 million square kilometres,

which includes setting up a "special research zone" where "light" fishing and tagging would be allowed.

At the close of the meeting on Thursday evening, the members failed to agree to the proposal. However, the CCAMLR has agreed to hold a meeting in Germany in July next year.

"CCAMLR members failed to establish any large-scale Antarctic marine protection at this meeting because a number of countries actively blocked conservation efforts," spokesman Steve Campbell said.

Xinhua

Google's Android software in 3 out of 4 smartphones

Technology

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Nov — Three out of every four smartphones sold in the third quarter featured Google Inc's Android mobile operating system, as the gap between Google and Apple Inc-based phones widened further, according to a new research report.

Shipments of Android-based smartphones made by Samsung, HTC and other vendors nearly doubled in the third quarter, reaching 136 million units, according to industry research firm IDC. The strong sales boosted Android's share of the worldwide smartphone market to 75 percent, from 57.5 percent in the year-ago period. Apple's share of the market increased to 14.9 percent during the third

quarter, from 13.8 percent a year earlier. Apple's iPhone uses the company's iOS mobile software.

While Android pulled further ahead of Apple's iOS, its gains have come mainly at the expense of rival operating systems BlackBerry and Symbian, with shipments of phones running those systems declining significantly.

IDC analyst Kevin Restivo cited Android's close "tie-ins" to Google's broad array of online services, which include online search and maps, as an important asset that has helped Android grow. "Google has a thriving, multi-faceted product portfolio. Many of its competitors, with weaker tie-ins to the mobile OS, do

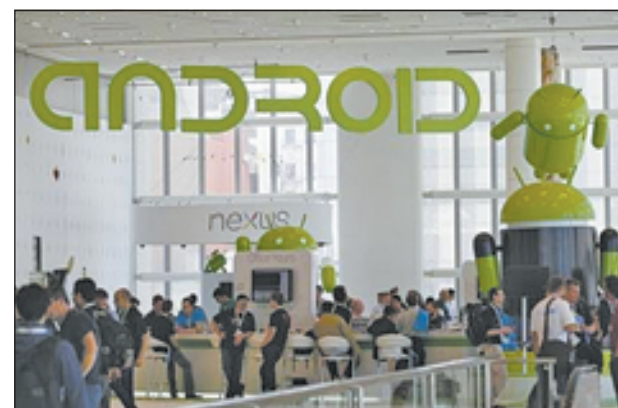
not," Restivo said in the IDC report, which was released on Thursday.

Google offers its Android operating system free to phone manufacturers, and primarily makes money from online advertising when

consumers access its services on the devices.

Research in Motion's Blackberry operating system had 7.7 percent share in the third quarter, compared with 9.5 percent a year earlier.

Reuters



Attendees gather at the Android developer sandbox during the Google I/O Conference at Moscone Centre in San Francisco, California on 28 June, 2012. — REUTERS

Science

China mulls new rule on human genetic research

BEIJING, 3 Nov — China on Wednesday began soliciting public opinion on a draft regulation on human genetic research that highlights improved protection over such resources and donors' interests.

The 50-article draft was designed to replace the existing interim measures on human genetic research, which was introduced in 1998, according to a statement posted on the central government's website on Wednesday.

The draft proposes a licensing procedure for all organizations involved in the collection and storage of human genetic resources, while also prohibiting any unauthorized activities in the field.

Such entities should set up internal ethics supervision boards and submit annual work reports to provincial

science and technology authorities, according to the draft. Moreover, the draft regulation upgrades requirements in line with the principle of informed consent on the part of donors of genetic materials and privacy protection for such donors.

It also explicitly prohibits any research activities that may result in discrimination and any form of selling or exporting human genetic resources without authorization.

As defined in the draft, "human genetic resources" refer to genetic materials such as human organs, tissues, cells, DNA and DNA products, which contain the human genome, genes or gene products, as well as information extracted from such genetic materials.

The draft will be open to feedback until 29 November.

Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Apple iPad mini draws New Yorkers; crowds thin elsewhere

Business

thin elsewhere



Apple employees share high-fives with customers who has been waiting in line to purchase the new iPad minis at Apple Store Ginza in Tokyo on 2 Nov, 2012. —REUTERS

NEW YORK, 3 Nov — Apple Inc's iPad mini hit stores around the world on Friday, attracting sparser crowds than previous Apple launches, but the kickoff still drew hundreds of New Yorkers only days after one of the biggest storms to hit the United States.

A proliferation of rival gadgets aimed at the holidays and cheaper tablets from Google Inc and Amazon.com Inc may have sapped interest in Apple's latest bet, resulting in shorter lines outside stores from Tokyo

and Amsterdam to Sydney and Hong Kong.

The 7.9-inch iPad mini marks Apple's first foray into the smaller-tablet segment, and is the company's first major new device since the death of its co-founder, Steve Jobs, last year.

In Manhattan, crowds braved crippled public transit and an early morning chill to line up outside Apple's Fifth Avenue flagship store just two blocks from where a damaged crane dangled from a high-rise building — a stark example of how superstorm

Sandy ravaged the city.

Some turned up on impulse, lacking power and heat at home.

Lisa Sieber, 59, from Germany, rode a bicycle to the store because she said she was going "stir crazy" at her 81-year-old mother's home in Manhattan's Lower East Side.

"There's not much to do without power and lights," she said. "I didn't think I needed an iPad but once you get your first Mac, you slide into the iPhone and the next one and it makes it easy to get more Apple products."

While the city was still grappling with Sandy's unprecedented devastation, some New Yorkers were angry that Apple delayed the store's opening until 10 am.

"Usually it's 8 am," said Vincent Leroy, 27, a student from Long Island City in Queens who showed up at the store at 6:30 am. His friends complained loudly in unison when he told them he had found out about the delayed opening.

Reuters

Facebook's Sandberg sells \$7.4 million in stock

Business

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Nov — Facebook Inc Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg and two other executives at the social networking company sold millions of dollars worth of stock this week as restrictions on insider trading expired.

Sandberg netted about \$7.44 million by selling roughly 353,000 Facebook shares on Wednesday, according to a filing with the SEC on Friday.

Sandberg still owns roughly 20 million vested shares of Facebook stock, including shares held in her trusts, according to the filing. Facebook General Counsel Theodore Ulyot and Chief Accounting Officer David Spillane also sold millions of dollars worth of shares this week, according to filings. All the Facebook executives' sales were part of pre-arranged stock trading plans.

The sales are the first by Facebook's senior management following the company's high-profile initial public offering in May.

The world's No1 online social network became the only US company to debut with a market value of more than \$100 billion, but has seen its value plunge more than 40 percent since then on concerns about its long-term money-making prospects.

Shares of Facebook, which were priced at \$38 in the IPO, closed Friday's regular session down 3 cents

800 million shares will be eligible for trading on 14 November, significantly expanding the "float" of roughly 692 million Facebook shares that were available for trading as of 30 September.

Facebook's 28-year-old chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg, has committed to not sell any shares before September 2013. Ulyot sold



Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg laughs at the Iab Mixx Conference and Expo in New York on 2 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

at \$21.18. The flood of shares set to hit the market as insider trading "lock-up" provisions expire in several phases have added to the pressure on Facebook's stock.

Roughly 230 million shares of Facebook became eligible for trading this week, as trading restrictions for employees expired. Another

slightly more than 149,000 shares on Wednesday and Thursday, collecting \$3.13 million. Ulyot has an additional 1.27 million in vested shares.

Spillane sold 256,000 shares on Wednesday, more than half of his vested shares, for proceeds of \$5.4 million.

Reuters

The nearer the bar, the greater the chances of risky drinking

Health

NEW YORK, 3 Nov — Does living near a bar encourage people to overindulge, or do heavy drinkers move to neighbourhoods with easy access to alcohol? A new study suggests it may be the former for some people.

Researchers in Finland found that of nearly 55,000 Finnish adults followed for seven years, those who moved closer to bars were somewhat more likely to increase their drinking.

When a person moved one kilometre (0.6 mile) closer to a bar, the odds of becoming a heavy drinker rose 17 percent. A "heavy drinker" meant more than 10 ounces a week for men and about seven ounces a

week for women, of distilled alcohol.

The link doesn't prove that mere distance from a bar turns people into alcohol abusers, according to the researchers.

"Factors other than proximity are also likely to explain the observed association," lead researcher Jaana L Halonen, of the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health in Kuopio, said in an email.

One possibility, she noted, is that drinkers choose to live near bars. But she and her colleagues also looked at a subset of people who didn't move — the bars came closer to them. And the findings were similar among those individuals, too, Halonen said. The researchers also accounted



Bottles of alcohol are seen at The Lord Cardigan pub in east London on 26 Jan, 2012. The pub is within a mile of the Olympic Park where the 2012 Olympic Games will take place. —REUTERS

for some other factors, like the neighbourhood poverty level. (In Finland, Halonen said, lower-income people are more likely to drink heavily than wealthier people are.) And distance from a bar remained tied to the odds of

becoming a heavy drinker.

The findings, reported in the journal *Addiction*, are based on surveys of 54,778 Finnish public employees who were followed over an average of seven years.

Reuters

Urgent response needed to fight drug-resistant malaria

Health

SYDNEY, 3 Nov — A critical regional health conference in Sydney has heard that growing resistance to an anti-malarial drug based on traditional Chinese herbal medicine could expose up to 2 billion people to malaria in the Asia Pacific region alone.

The Artemisinin, also known as Qing hao su in Chinese, has been vital in global efforts to stop the spread of malaria, which still affects 216 million people

globally, causing around 650,000 death each year.

Delivering a keynote address at the Malaria 2012: Saving Lives in the Asia Pacific conference in Sydney, Australia's Foreign Minister Bob Carr announced Friday that Australia will spend more than 100 million US dollars over the next four years to combat malaria in the region.

"One person is dying every minute from malaria.

Many more will die if we do not urgently address drug-resistant malaria. If we accelerate our efforts we could save 70,000 lives and prevent around 50 million malaria cases by 2015.

"We will establish a working group with regional leaders to drive joint action and advance malaria discussions following the upcoming East Asia Summit," Carr said. But as the conference draws to a close, experts and political

leaders have warned that failure to deal with drug resistant malaria will have dire consequences.

A report by the Rollback Malaria Partnership showed there were more than 34 million cases of Malaria outside Africa in 2010, claiming the lives of 46,000 people. The vast bulk of those cases were in the Asia Pacific, which includes 20 malaria endemic countries.

Xinhua

Boeing wins \$4 billion contract for Saudi fighter jet fleet

Business

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov — Boeing Co (BA.N) has secured a contract valued at \$4 billion to modernize the Royal Saudi Arabian Air Force's fighter jet fleet, the Pentagon said on Friday.

The procurement order covers conversion of 68 existing F15S jets to the new F15S-A configuration.

The Pentagon said the work, expected to be completed by 31 Dec, 2019, would be done at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia.

The contract also provides for four base stand-up kits, which include spares and support equipment needed to achieve operating capability for the fighter jets.

Altogether, about 150 new or converted F-15SA aircraft will be supported or maintained at four Saudi bases, according to information provided earlier by Robins.

It is the largest foreign military sales contract to be filled the base. — Reuters



The Boeing logo is seen on a Boeing 787 Dreamliner airplane in Long Beach, California on 14 March, 2012. —REUTERS

President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win host dinner to Norwegian Prime Minister and wife

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov— President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win hosted a dinner to a goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of Norway Mr Jens Stoltenberg and wife, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, at 8.45 pm today.

It was also attended by Union Ministers, deputy ministers, Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Katja Nordgaard and high-ranking officials.

At the dinner, artistes from Fine Arts Department preformed the guests with

Myanma traditional songs and dances.

MNA

President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win host a dinner in honour of goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of Norway Mr Jens Stoltenberg and wife at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.

MNA



LOCAL NEWS

28-Buddha image conveying ceremony of Pynmana Township concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov — The prize presentation ceremony of the 94th 28-Buddha image conveying ceremony of Pynmana Township was held at Mingalar Kandaw Hall in Pynmana, here, on 1 November.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than presented first, second and third prizes to outstanding religious associations, and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo and officials awarded other religious associations.

MNA

Lashio sees regional development

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov — Regional development works are being geared up in Lashio. Construction of bus terminal, road works for building Lashio detour on Lashio-Namtu road and drilling of tubewell at the site chosen for Lashio Education College are under construction.— MNA

Myanmar to play friendly match against Okayama of J-League Division-2



YANGON, 3 Nov — Myanmar selected football team is set to play friendly match against Okayama Club of J-League Division-2 before taking part in ASEAN Suzuki Cup.

Myanmar selected football team poses for documentary photo at the stadium.

With the aim of achieving success in ASEAN Suzuki Cup, 25 Myanmar selected football players are under training starting from 1 November.

It is set to organize two friendly matches between Myanmar selected football team and Okayama club in the third week of this month. The plan to hold a match between Myanmar selected football team and Cameron selected football team on 14 November in Yangon, has met with failure. Myanmar

selected football team played against Okayama Club during its visit to Japan where the latter beat Myanmar 6-0 in the tune-up match.

Okayama Club stood tenth place at the table of J-League Division-2 for 2011-12 football season.

The Japanese club is consisted of one Malaysian, one Korean and two Brazilian professional footballers, apart from Japanese players.

Kyemon

Locals contribute their voluntary services to Mu bridge construction

DABAYIN, 3 Nov— Mu river crossing bridge (Mukamgyi-Yaykyiwa) is under construction on a self-reliant basis in Dabayin Township of Sagaing Region. Under the leadership of a presiding Sayadaw, local people contributed their voluntary services into the construction works. So far, 75 per cent of the whole project has been completed.

The self-reliant bridge is 840 feet long and 18 feet wide, and it can withstand 60 tons load. The construction work started in July 2010. "It can be put into service if the government lends a hand in building the bridge", a local said. U Hla Paw, chairman of Mu bridge construction committee, said that the bridge would be a fourth facility on Mu river; that it would be a largest one built on a self-reliant basis in Myanmar; that there were four bridges,

including that one, across Mu river; that the other three— Nyaungbinwun bridge on Mandalay-Monywa road, YeU bridge on Shwebo-YeU road and Thamayo bridge on Ayadaw-Wetlet road were built by the government. Upon completion, local

people in Dabayin, Wetlet, Budalin, Taze, Ayadaw, KhinU, Kanbalu, Kyunhla, Sagaing and ChaungU will be able to transport their agriculture produce to Mandalay market, thereby

contributing towards betterment of social, economic, health and education of local farmers.

Although it is estimated to cost about K 1200 million, a huge amount of money

can be saved thanks to collective contributions of local people in construction works. Any one may visit there to study construction works.

Kyemon



LOCAL NEWS

Medi-Aungthukha bridge put into service



NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—The Medi-Aungthukha steel frame wooden floor bridge was inaugurated in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 1 November.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw

Development Committee U Myo Aung, Township Administrator U Wai Lwin Phyto and townselder U Win Myint formally opened the bridge. The old bridge was damaged due to water erosion. Thus, the new bridge with 20

feet in length and 16 feet in width was built at a cost of K 37.5 million. Thanks to new bridge, local people of Medi, Aungthukha, Chaing and Htantabin villages are now enjoying better transport.

MNA

Narcotic drugs, cut jade stone seized in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 3 Nov—Members of Special Anti-Drug Squad of northern Mandalay and No 3 police station together with witnesses, acting on a tip-off, searched the house of Zaw Win Naing in Mann Mandalar Housing in Yanmyolon Ward of Chanayethazan Township at 9 am on 12 October.

They seized 200,000 cold tablets with the content of 0.15 gram pseudoephedrine, 180,000 tablets

with the content of 0.15 gram, 6000 catra tablets, 40000 Broku tablets, 40000 Actisum tablets, 280,000 Himeof tablets, 120,000 Sucet tablets, totaling 3,414,000 tablets weighing 564 kilograms worth about K 40,968,000, 101 cut jade stones weighing 40 kilograms.

No 3 police station opened a file of lawsuit against Zaw Win Naing and house helper Aung Naing under sections 15/16 (b)/16(c), 20 (a), 21 of Narcotic Drugs

and Psychotropic Substances Law and section 42 (a) of Gems Law.

Myanmar Alinn

Development tasks supervised



YANGON, 3 Nov—Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Hla Myint inspected agriculture and livestock breeding tasks in Uto region of Taikkyi Township, operating of 25-

ton rice mill, paddy dryer and paddy warehouse, and breeding of layers on 1 November.

The mayor looked into progress of repaving Hlawga Road in Mingaladon Township, Bogyoke Road in Shwepyithu Township, Lower Mingaladon

potato in quality and different sizes are fixed at K 700, K

880, K 900 and K 950 per viss.—Myanmar Alinn



YANGON, 3 Nov—According to the information of the market, as onion and potato flow into the market with lesser volume at Bayintnaung brokerage, the price of goods is high. However, trading of groceries is cold down.

The price of onion rose to K 150 per viss in the waning days of Thadingyut. Depending on sizes and quality, onion is traded at K 700 to K 1000 per viss, according to an agent of the brokerage.

Likewise, prices of

Rural people to get railway station

THAZI, 3 Nov—Myanmar Railways will designate a station near Chanthagyi Monastery of Kokkokan Village on Pyawbwe-Phayangahsu-Shwenyaung railroad for enabling the local people to smoothly travel to hilly regions of Shan State (South) and for increasing income of Myanmar Railways

and to stop a train at the station, according an official.

It is 147/148 up and down trains that run on Pyinmana-Pyawbwe-Loikaw railroad. That is why rural people from Kokkokan, Htanaunggon, Shanywa and Taungpusa villages are very pleased with good news.

Myanmar Alinn

Motorcycle thief arrested

KAWKAREIK, 3 Nov—A squad led by IP Aung Aung Oo of Kawkareik Myoma police station arrested Rakhee (a) Tint Zaw Tun of Bogyoke Street in Ward 2 of Kawkareik together with Honda Dream motorcycle he stole at the bungalow on Myawady-Kawkareik Road at 6.30 pm on 19 October. Kawkareik Myoma Police Station filed a lawsuit of theft case.

Myanmar Alinn

Tents sent to locals of Rakhine State

YANGON, 3 Nov—Department of Relief and Resettlement under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement will dispatch 350 tents to local people of Rakhine State.

Each tent can accommodate five persons. On 2 November, the tents were transported to No 1 Naval Jetty in Shukhintha of Thakayta Township

through Central Store of Yangon Region Relief and Resettlement Department on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon and thence to Rakhine State by naval vessel. The tents will be sent to Sittway.

The Department of Relief and Resettlement has so far sent 4019 tents for the local people of Rakhine State.

Myanmar Alinn



Fire breaks out in Namhsam

LASHIO, 3 Nov—A fire broke out in Namhsam of Kyaukme District this morning.

Over 40 houses were destroyed in the fire and over 200 people became homeless.

At 10.05 am the fire started from wire shock from a house in Nammawaw

Ward. The fire burnt down eight houses in Myole Ward, 39 in Nammawaw Ward, totaling 47. A total of 234 people from 55 households fell into fire victims. They are being accommodated at the camp opened at Myoma Gainggyoke monastery.

MNA

Free clinic opened in Mudon

YANGON, 3 Nov—A free clinic was opened for providing health care services to needy patients from Mudon and its surrounding villages on 1

November.

Mon State Minister for Planning and Economy Dr Min Nwe Soe, Chairman of the Clinic Supervisory Committee Dr Soe Myint

Road and Baho Road in Insein Township, Upper Kyimyindine Road in Kyimyindine Township, Strand Road in Lanmadaw Township, Maha Bandoola Park Street between Bogyoke Aung San Street and Strand Road in Kyauktada Township.—MNA

Traffic lights installed at Yonshae Bus-stop in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 3 Nov—Traffic jams often occur at Yonshae bus-stop in Hlinethaya Township in the morning and the evening.

It is because the bus-stop is located at the junction of Kyansittha Street (from

Win and wellwishers U Khin Maung Win-Daw Khin San Win formally opened the clinic. Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint unveiled the signboard of the clinic.—MNA

Korea Trade Fair 8-11 Nov

YANGON, 3 Nov—The Korea Trade Fair will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre, here, from 8 to 11 November.

Altogether 55 companies of Republic of Korea will showcase their products at the booths of the trade fair.

K-Pop Cover Dance Final and Face of Myanmar Contest Semifinal, organized by KOTRA (Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency) will be held at the same venue at 6 pm on 10 November.

Myanmar Alinn

Shwelinpan Industrial Zone), Kyansittha Street (Pagoda Road from Kyansittha Housing Estate), the road from Insein (Pauktawwa) and the road from Hlinethaya-Nyaungdon. In fact, Yonshae bus-stop needs control of traffic police and traffic light. Sometimes, a volunteer controls the traffic ways.

At present, the traffic lights are being installed at the bus-stop under the supervision of township authorities.—Myanmar Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 4 November, 2012

Stop mob violence in Yangon nights

A recent news report in a journal said that some people in Yangon expressed concern over their safety due to road accidents triggered by midnight motor racing on the main roads and frequent occurrence of lawless acts committed by reckless groups of young people. We are astonished to hear the voices of Yangonites who always feel that they are in safe hands. Yangon, our commercial city, is a gateway to the rest of country with full potentials for foreign investors.

Recently, a journal reported that there was a mob violence in which one of three cleaners of Hninzigon Home for the Aged was attacked by a group of young people standing around a racing car which is supposed to have a breakdown in its machine. The cleaner was killed in the tragic incident started from being questioned about his singing by the group. There arises a question why they have a growing level of hostility towards others and what the factors that encourage them to be a group of brawlers committing wrongdoings and violations. It is difficult to know whether they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs that could channel a verbal quarrel into a murder case or they dared to make a brutal killing on a whim. But it is sure that this is a criminal case painting bad images and posing threats to community peace and tranquility. Punitive actions must be taken against such incidents of mob violence disturbing the Rule of Law and tarnishing the national integrity and civic dignities. It is time for better law enforcement.

Those involved in series of violence occurred recently in Yangon should be encouraged to do their bit in nation-building endeavours instead of indulging in nightclub brawls, midnight motor racing and mob violence. The youth of today are the best hope for the nation which is in good shape to welcome foreign guests who are going to come in flocks with the hope of making investments here. If such unwanted incidents of outrage happen frequently in public areas, it would raise the question of public safety among Yangonites, including foreign guests. Moreover, we should be really concerned about being branded as belligerent persons.

UCSB member back from Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—A Myanmar delegation led by member of Union Civil Services Board U Khin Maung Aye arrived back here after paying a visit to the HRD activities and economic management projects of Public and Private Organizations in Japan from 28 October to 2 November, 2012.

The Myanmar delegation paid a visit to the National Personal Authority

on 29 October, Tokyo Stock Exchange and Tokyo Metropolitan Government on 30 October, Japan Productivity Center on 31 October and Konosuke Mutsushita Museum on 1 November 2012.

The Myanmar delegation consisted of 16 officers from the President Office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Union Government Office, the Hluttaw Office, the

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by President Mr José Manuel Barroso of European Commission at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex here at 11:30 am today.

Present at the call were chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees U Thein Zaw, U Thein Swe, U Hla Myint Oo and U T Khun Myat, Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Members U Khin Soe and Daw Myat Myat Soe and responsible personnel from the Hluttaw Office.

At the call, Pyithu Hluttaw speaker congratulated European Commission on its assistance for democratic reform of Myanmar, political and economic



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with European Commission President Mr José Manuel Barroso.

MNA

reforms. Both sides cordially discussed facts about successful implementation of political and economic reforms in Myanmar.—MNA

National-level workshop on science and technology development held

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—“Development of science and technology sector and high education standard plays an important role in individual development of every citizen and socio-economic development. The world countries including developed and developing countries are placing emphasis on the development

of these two sectors,” said Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo, at a national-level workshop on science and technology development here yesterday.

“Efforts are to be made for development of science and technology sector in combination with natural resources, qualified

human resources and modern technologies, which are the basic ingredients for promoting competitiveness in international economy,” Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint.

After that, resource persons read out the papers on reform processes of industrial education system and computer science,

cooperation for human resource development and prospects of government ministries, research on technology sector and biotechnology and its success, sustainable human resource development in Myanmar, development of exploration department and its sectors in Myanmar science and technology sectors and Ministry of Industry’s human resource development programme.—MNA

YANGON, 3 Nov—When the joint venture with private sector takes shape, Myanmar Shipyards of the Ministry of Transport is expected to build five 3550-ton ships, two 6500-ton ships in a year as a first phase and five 12500-ton ships in a second phase, to repair three 3000-ton ships in a year in a first phase and four 12500-ton ships in a year in a second phase.

The Shipyards would earn from US\$ 4 million to 105 million within 10-year duration, generating from US\$ 1 million to 10 million of profit, said Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung at the Head Office of Myanmar Shipyards.

Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Cooperatives, the Ministry of Immigration and Population, the Office of the Auditor-General of the Union and the Union Civil Services Board.—MNA

Myanma Shipyards to be run under JV to build, repair more ships

Until last month, Myanmar Shipyards has already built 11 ships and 19 ships are under construction while 9 ships are under repair.

Sofar in this 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Myanmar

Shipyards has earned about K3630 million while getting about K450 million and US\$0.6 million as a profit, he added.

To bring progress to the Myanmar Shipyards would be run as a joint-venture

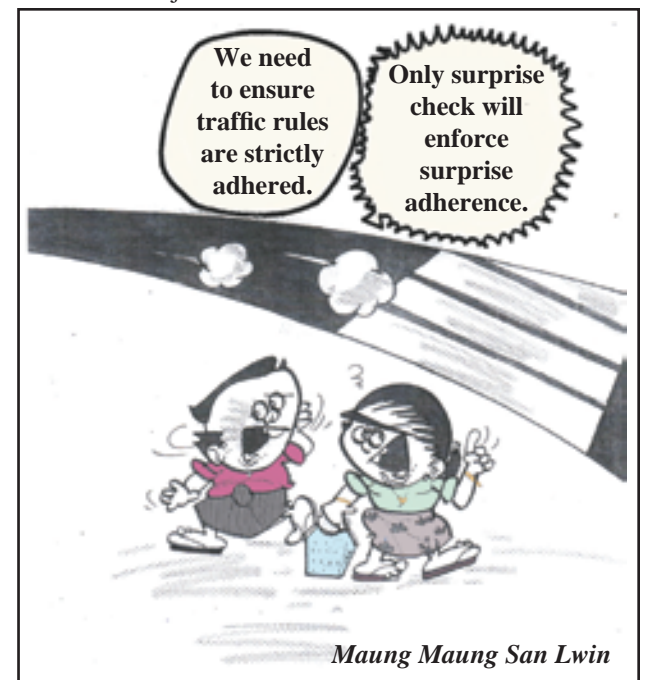
with private sector, without decreasing the number of staff of the dockyard, he said.

The Union Minister visited the worksite where new ships are being constructed.

MNA

Training courses concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—Education and Training Department of Ministry of Border Affairs concluded the management course No 50/51, the advanced tailoring instructor course No 2, the management trainer course No 2 and cheral course No 80/81 at the central training school in Dagon Myothit (North) Township yesterday.—MNA



Maung Maung San Lwin

NATIONAL

All are to establish a peaceful, tolerant human society, setting aside hatred among the society

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, accompanied by US, British and Australian ambassadors to Myanmar and members and departmental heads, made field trip to Pauktaw, Minbya, MraukU, Kyauktaw and Yathedaung Townships yesterday morning.

The ambassadors questioned the displaced persons at relief camp in Kyeinnibyin village, Pauktaw Township.

After that, the Union Minister said that at present the livelihood of the displaced persons is crucial. Relief and aids programmes are being undertaken.

They will be provided with tents. Farmers are to reap their paddy because of harvest season. They themselves are to participate in an attempt to become better social life. It needs to make collaborative efforts for it in peace and unity. The Union Minister urged the officials to fulfill water and sanitation requirements of the displaced persons.

On arrival at Samarlay village in Minbya Township, the Union Minister said that they came to the region to fulfill the requirements for rehabilitation tasks in cooperation with the Union Government, State Government and International agencies. Ways will be sought for job opportunities of the displaced persons. All are urged to make strenuous efforts for development of their community.



Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay provides assistance to displaced persons in Purein Village in MraukU Township.—MNA

After that, they visited fire-ravaged wards and villages in Minbya Township by helicopters.

On arrival at Purein village of MraukU Township, the ambassadors and members met with villagers, and the Union Minister, the State Chief Minister and the departmental heads provided assistance to them.

Upon arrival at Taungbwe village of Kyauktaw Township, they visited fire-torn houses and handed over rice, oil and dry noodle packages donated by Ministry of Border Affairs.

After that, they urged local people to make cooperation in ensuring peace and stability and the rule of law while meeting with local people.

Afterwards, they looked into debris in Nyaungbingyi village-tract in Yathedaung Township and the Union Minister explained the facts about the conflicts to the diplomatic members.

While meeting with the victims in Nyaungbingyi village, the Union Minister

said that they made field trip to the region so as to seek the ways of how to avert the conflicts in the future. It needs to have cooperation of local people. Special emphasis should be placed on the livelihood of local people, regional development, progress of education and health sector in the long run. Current inconvenience can not be solved in a short period of time. Solving the problems outside the legal bound is not true. All should sympathize each other with a sense of tolerance and amity. All are to establish a peaceful, tolerant human society, setting aside the hatred among the society. Efforts for regional development can be made, only when there are collaboration between the government and the International organizations and local people.

Efforts are to be made for emergence of mutually-respected harmonious society to be in accord with the traditions and customs of the country.

After that, the US

Ambassador said that he came to the regions to know the real cause of the incidents. The victims will be provided with humanitarian aids. He wanted to know the real cause of incident.

Then, the British Ambassador said that the conflicts should be solved by peaceful means. They came to the affected regions to know the real causes and fulfilled the needs of the regions.

Afterwards, the Union Minister and party encouraged local people in Nyaungbingyi village, and the diplomatic members raised the questions to local people.—MNA

Workshop on national-level development of urban project, housing and transport goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—“For ensuring people-centered development and promoting living standards of people, the Ministry needs to keep track of disadvantages of the department in implementing sustainable development of rural and urban areas, availability of affordable housings and

better transport,” said Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, at 2nd day workshop on national-level development of urban project, housing and transport of the Ministry of Construction held at the ministry here yesterday morning. Later, the resource persons submitted proposals at the workshop.—MNA

Swiss embassy opens in Yangon

YANGON, 3 Nov—“Myanmar is now on right track to the democratic country. Switzerland will support Myanmar at a time when Myanmar is taking a long and difficult step towards democracy. Switzerland will provide humanitarian aids worth about US\$ 8 million to Myanmar. It has planned to raise the amount from about US\$11 million to US\$ 20 million in the coming year. In late 2013-2016, the aids will be raised to about US\$ 35 million,” said Foreign Minister and Federal Councilor of Switzerland Mr Didier Burkhalter, at the opening ceremony of Swiss Embassy to Myanmar at No.11, Khabaung road, Hline Township, here, this morning.

Swiss Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Christoph Burgener made a speech on the occasion. After that, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein, the Swiss Foreign Minister opened the ceremony and unveiled the signboard of the Embassy. The Swiss ambassador hailed the Swiss flag. It was attended by Union Minister at President Office U Aung Min, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, wives of the Swiss Foreign Minister and Swiss ambassador to Myanmar, officials from foreign embassies in Yangon and guests. In the evening, the delegation visited to Shwedagon Pagoda.—MNA

Swiss FM and Federal Councilor and wife arrive in Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—A delegation led by Swiss Foreign Affairs Minister and Federal Councilor Mr Didier Burkhalter and wife arrived in Yangon from Nay Pyi Taw by special flight at 6:20 pm yesterday.

In the evening, a ceremony to mark opening of the Embassy of Switzerland to Myanmar was held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon.

Also present on the occasion were Union Minister at President Office U Aung Min, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein and wife, the Swiss Foreign Affairs Minister and Federal Councilor and wife, Yangon Region ministers, Swiss ambassador to Myanmar Mr Christoph Burgener, ambassadors and their wives of foreign

embassies in Yangon and officials.

At the ceremony, the Swiss Foreign Affairs Minister and Federal Councilor extended greetings and Union Minister U Win Shein delivered an address. Later, the orchestra played the national anthems of Myanmar and Switzerland.

MNA



Union Ministers U Aung Min, U Win Shein, the Swiss Foreign Minister, Yangon region ministers, Swiss ambassador at opening ceremony of Swiss Embassy in Yangon.—MNA

European Commission President and party arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov—A delegation led by President of the European Commission Mr Jose’ Manuel Barroso arrived at

Nay Pyi Taw Airport by special flight this morning.

Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin, Deputy Minister

for National Planning and Economic Development U Hset Aung, European Union Ambassador to Myanmar Mr David Lipman and officials welcomed the European Commission president and party at the airport.—MNA

Colombian leader urges intensified battle against rebels

BOGOTA, 3 Nov—Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos on Friday called for intensified strikes against two rebel forces until peace deals were reached.

Marking the 121st anniversary of Colombia's National Police, Santos said his administration had offered the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC) and National Liberation Army

(ELN) "sincere and open dialogues" to bring an end to some 50 years of armed conflict.

"Meanwhile, the power of our military forces will not only continue, but intensify," he said at a police academy in southern Bogota, accompanied by his counterparts — Laura Chinchilla from Costa Rica, and Porfirio Lobo from Honduras. "We say to the

FARC and the ELN, that the instructions of our forces are clear and conclusive. There is no room for thought here."

The FARC has some 10,000 members, while the ELN has about 3,000.

Costa Rican and Honduran presidents attended the event in appreciation of Colombia's training of security forces in their countries.—Xinhua



Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos (C) delivers a speech during the 121st anniversary of the Colombian National Police, in Bogota, capital of Colombia, on 2 Nov, 2012. —XINHUA

3,490 to be honoured with autumn decorations

TOKYO 3, Nov—Former construction minister Taku Yamasaki and former Supreme Court Justice Tatsuo Kainaka are among the 3,940 recipients of this year's autumn decorations for contributions to society, the government said on Saturday. In addition to Japanese recipients, 46 foreigners from 23 countries and territories, including former Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi, 73, and former Algerian Ambassador to Japan Abdelmalek Benhabyles, 91, will also be honoured.

This fall's highest award — the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun — was awarded to Yamasaki, 75, a former House of Representatives lawmaker who also served as the head of the Defence Agency, now the Defence Ministry, and Kainaka, 72, who also served as chief of the Tokyo High Prosecutors Office.—Kyodo



Photo taken on 2 Nov, 2012 shows the scenery of Jibei Islet in Penghu County, southeast China's Taipei. The local tourist department has planned on the simplification of the procedure for travelling to attract visitors from the Chinese mainland to Penghu.

XINHUA

US Justice Department to send election monitors to 23 states

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov — The US Justice Department on Friday announced that it is sending more than 780 federal observers and monitors to 23 states across the country to watch for potential voting rights violations in the 6 Nov presidential election.

The department said that the observers will go to 51 jurisdictions in those states to help enforce federal

voting rights laws, which protect ballot access.

The observers will also be watching over voting procedures. Media reports said that one reason for the dispatchment was to prevent discrimination based on languages and ethnicity. The officials will also ensure that voters with disabilities are accommodated, and that no procedures are used to subject voters to different

procedures on the basis of race, color or national origin.

Many of the locations being targeted for the 2012 general election have also appeared on similar lists for past elections. Justice officials say the federal monitors will maintain a low profile, and will not be involved in the voting process unless problems arise.

Xinhua

US investigators to get access to Benghazi suspect

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov— Authorities in Tunisia have agreed to allow FBI investigators access to a detained Islamic militant suspected of playing a role in the 11 September attacks on US diplomatic facilities in Benghazi, Libya, US officials said on Friday.

Under an arrangement worked out between Tunisian and US officials, American investigators will be allowed to interview Ali Ani al Harzi under the supervision of Tunisian officials.

The arrangement was first made public in a written statement issued on Friday by two Republican US

senators, Saxby Chambliss, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and Lindsey Graham, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The senators said that while it was "unfortunate" that it had taken some time for the agreement to be reached, "allowing American investigators in person access will make the interview more meaningful and is a welcome breakthrough in our efforts to find the perpetrators to the Benghazi ... attacks."

Earlier this week, Graham wrote to the Tunisian government advising them how important it was to him

and other US legislators for al Harzi to be made available to US investigators. Meanwhile, Chambliss urged the FBI to seek access to al Harzi and any other individuals who might be detained in connection with the attacks.

A US government source said it was possible that the senators' pressure may have helped convince the Tunisians to allow FBI investigators to interview al Harzi, who was initially arrested in Turkey in October but later sent back by Turkish authorities to his native Tunisia.

US sources have said that al-Harzi is suspected of

participating in the Benghazi attacks in which Christopher Stevens, the US Ambassador to Libya, and three other US officials were killed. His precise role in the attacks was unclear, the officials said, and there was no proof he was a leader in the attacks.

The Daily Beast news website reported on 23 October that shortly after the Benghazi attacks began, al Harzi posted an update about the fighting on an unspecified social media site. The Daily Beast said this was one of the first clues for US intelligence agencies seeking to find out who was behind the violence.

Reuters

Upcoming US elections about economy: Bush

SANTO DOMINGO, 3 Nov— Former US President George W. Bush said here Friday that the upcoming US presidential elections are "about the economy."

Bush made the remarks at a conference held in the Dominican Republic's capital of Santo Domingo by the Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO), which gathers more than 8,000 business owners from 35 countries and regions.

"These elections are about the economy," said Bush when asked about the upcoming elections next

Tuesday, adding that the election debate should focus on the basic concerns of private sector growth and job creation.

He told reporters that most Americans already know who they're going to vote for. "I can tell you that I'm not going to vote for that guy on Tuesday," said Bush, a Republican, referring to incumbent President Barack Obama, a Democrat.

Latest polls showed Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney are locked in dead heat.

Xinhua

Ebola virus found in Borneo, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 3 Nov— Indonesian researchers have found evidence of presence of Ebola virus in several Orangutan in Kalimantan island known as Borneo, paper said here on Saturday.

The researchers were from Airlangga University's Avian Influenza-zoonosis Research Center in Surabaya, East Java, in Indonesia.

Researcher Chairil Anwar Nidom said that 65 serum samples collected

from 353 healthy orangutans between December 2005 and December 2006 tested positive for Ebola virus.

"The result should be an early warning for us," he was quoted by the *Jakarta Post* as saying.

"In 2006, we collected the samples and froze them because we didn't have an appropriate laboratory to examine them. We examined them last year," he added.

Chairil also said that

six of 353 samples tested positive for Marburg virus, the similar virus to Ebola that causes Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever.

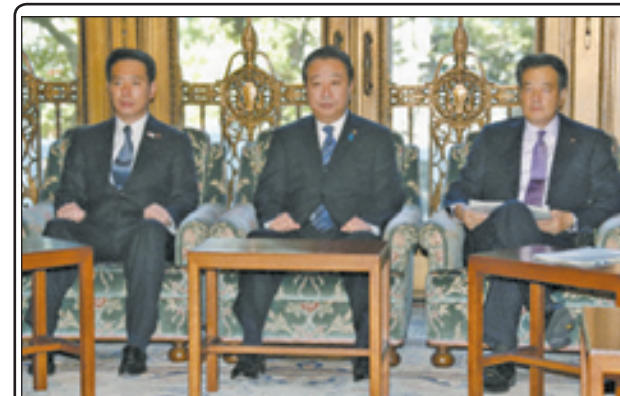
Further examination, Chairil said, showed that 60 of 65 Ebola- tested samples were similar to the virus found in Africa. "There were only five samples that had the similarity with Ebola virus found in Asia. The other 60 were similar to the Ebola virus found in

Zaire, Sudan, Ivory Coast, and Bundibugyo District in Uganda," he said.

According to Chairil, Ebola virus might still live in some of orangutans' bodies. "All I can say is that Ebola could be a threat to humans living in Indonesia," he said.

The orangutan is only found in Kalimantan and Sumatra. The other great apes: gorilla, chimpanzee and bonobo live in Africa.

Xinhua



(From L) National Policy Minister Seiji Maehara, Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda and Deputy Prime Minister Katsuya Okada attend a Cabinet meeting in the Diet building in Tokyo on Nov. 2, 2012. The Japanese government decided to streamline two Cabinet support agencies and allow them to respond more flexibly and strategically to major issues, Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura said.— KYODO

REGIONAL

Thailand to launch Andaman Sea tour campaign **Thailand**

BANGKOK, 3 Nov—Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra is launching a major tour promotion campaign next week, especially for Thailand's southern tourist spots on the shores of the Andaman Sea.

The lady prime minister is scheduled to preside over the tour campaign entitled "The Andaman the World Living Legacy" in Phuket on 10 Nov.

Featured will be carnival-like processions of local Thais living in and around tourist spots throughout the southern coastal region which includes the Provinces of Ranong, Phang-nga, Krabi, Trang,

Satun and Phuket.

Each of the processions from the six Andaman seaside provinces will carry a title of its own to make one distinguish from another.

For instance, Phuket's procession will have a title literally reading "400-Year-Old Andaman Phuket Miracles", Krabi's procession will be entitled "43,000-Year-Old Andaman Krabi Adventures" and Phang-nga's banners will read "2,000-Year-Old Andaman Phang-nga Beauty".

The campaign was primarily designed to exhibit indigenous custom, folklore and cultures of the Thai

southern region which may be still considered exotic and attractive to foreign tourists in addition to its world-renowned tropical beach resorts.

The Thai government will see to it that those tourist spots will be made available for the tourists all year round and that they will eventually spend a longer period of time while in this country than ever, according to Yingluck.

The Thai prime minister earlier pledged to develop and promote the Andaman Sea's tourist sites as the government has planned to provide funding for the construction and improvement of infrastructures

such as roads, railways, airports and piers throughout the region.

Five particular areas of the region will be given top priorities under the government's infrastructure development plans, including Krabi Province's PP Islands and Ao Nang beach and Phuket's Old Town area, Haad Patong beach and Laem Phromthep jutland area.

"We'll build up varied infrastructures as part of an ASEAN community connectivity scheme. That is to link our tourist spots with their surrounding neighbourhoods and areas inside of the other ASEAN member countries.

"We're looking for ways and means to keep the foreign tourists going places and staying in Thailand longer than they may have planned. Yet, they are to be given quality accommodations and services while in our country," said Yingluck during a seminar on the government's southern tourism development projects in Krabi last September. In particular, accommodations at airports and hotels, services at health spas, Thai foods and "OTOP" (one-tambon-one-product) indigenous products for sales to the tourists will be provided in environment-friendly, quality fashion, according to the lady prime minister.—Xinhua



Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung (R) shakes hands with his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina before a meeting in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam, on 2 Nov, 2012. Sheikh Hasina is in Vietnam for a three-day state visit. —XINHUA

4 out of 6 experts in nuclear safety panel got grants from utilities **Japan**

TOKYO, 3 Nov —Four out of the six members of a government team drafting new safety standards for nuclear reactors have received between around 3 million yen and 27 million yen each in grants, donations and compensation from utilities in the past three to four years, according to data disclosed by the Nuclear Regulation Authority on Friday.

The regulatory body's secretariat said the members "have been selected in line with rules, and there should be no problem." Critics, however, say the members'

judgments might be swayed by the wishes of donors, exposing safety regulations to the risk of being watered down.

The NRA requires experts involved in drafting safety standards for nuclear powerplants and other matters to disclose remuneration and donations, but has no provision for disqualifying them in light of such information.

Kyodo News

EU Council president arrives in Cambodia for official visit **Cambodia**

PHNOM PENH, 3 Nov—

Herman Van Rompuy, president of the European Council, and his wife Geertrui Windels-Van Rompuy arrived here on Friday afternoon for a 3-day visit to promote ties and pay their tribute to recently deceased former King Norodom Sihanouk. The visit was made at the invitation of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, according to a media statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the visit, Van Rompuy will hold official talks with Hun Sen and also meet with the second Vice-President of the National Assembly Khuon Sodary.

"In his bilateral talks, he will touch upon bilateral, domestic and regional issues," said a Press release from the European Union to Cambodia.—Xinhua



Ornate barges parade past the Grand Palace on the Chao Phraya River during rehearsal of Royal Barge Procession in Bangkok, Thailand, on 2 Nov, 2012. The dress rehearsal of the Royal Barge Procession for the Royal Kathin Ceremony kicked off here on Friday, with the participation of 2,311 oarsmen from the Royal Thai Navy and 52 vessels, including four exquisitely crafted royal barges. XINHUA

Asia, Europe leaders to discuss eurozone crisis in Laos **Laos**

TOKYO, 3 Nov—Leaders from Asia and Europe will gather in Laos for two days from Monday to discuss how to overcome the eurozone debt crisis, revive the world economy and tackle a host of common concern in the regions.

Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Lao Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong are among the leaders expected to attend the Asia-Europe Meeting summit to be held in Vientiane under the theme "Friends for Peace, Partners for Prosperity."

ASEM, which serves as the only forum of dialogue linking Asia and Europe, consists of 46 countries and two international organizations. Three countries — Bangladesh, Switzerland and Norway — are joining the informal group from this year's summit.

With Thongsing serving

as chairman, the participants at the summit are expected to share an understanding on the steps needed to overcome the economic and fiscal crisis in the eurozone that has had an adverse effect on the world economy.

Among the other issues to be discussed are food and energy security, sustainable development, climate change, natural disaster responses, sociocultural cooperation, and ASEM's future, according to the official ASEM website.

Japan will explain to other ASEM members, particularly those in Europe, its efforts to help resolve the debt crisis and its commitment to engaging in the world in the aftermath of the Fukushima Daiichi plant, Japanese officials said.

In his remarks during the meeting, Noda is likely to stress the importance of observing international law,

given that official Chinese ships have repeatedly entered waters near a group of islets administered by Japan but claimed by China.

On the sidelines, Noda is scheduled to meet bilaterally with the leaders of the European Union, Poland, Cambodia, Denmark and the Philippines as well as Laos, the officials said.

ASEM is a forum created in 1996 to strengthen ties between Asia and Europe. Japanese prime ministers have attended all previous ASEM summits, the first one of which was held in Bangkok in 1996. The biennial leaders' meeting was last held in Brussels in October 2010. ASEM members include all 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, all 27 EU members, and other countries, including India, Russia and Australia. North Korea is not part of the grouping.—Kyodo News



Residents ride in rain in Zhengzhou, capital of central China's Henan Province, on 3 Nov, 2012. Temperature in Zhengzhou dropped some 10 degrees Celsius as a cold wind hit the city and brought rainfall on Saturday.—XINHUA

S Korea's Lee sends message of sympathy to Obama over killer storm **S Korea**

SEOUL, 3 Nov — South Korean President Lee Myung-bak on Friday sent a message of sympathy to US President Barack Obama over the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy.

Lee expressed "deep condolences" over the loss of life and property caused by the superstorm, which swept across the US East

Coast and claimed over 90 lives so far, according to his office Cheong Wa Dae.

The president also voiced confidence that the American people will come together under Obama's "outstanding leadership" and overcome the time of difficulty, Cheong Wa Dae said in a statement.

Xinhua

Terror plotter gets 17 years in US

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov — Rezwan Ferdaus, a man confessed to planning to crash explosive-laden model airplanes into federal buildings has been sentenced to 17 years in prison in Boston, Massachusetts, local media reported on Thursday.

The *Boston Globe* said the 26-year-old planned to use rigged cellphones to detonate the improvised devices to bomb the Pentagon and the US Capitol. His plea bargain with prosecutors helped him to avoid a much lengthier sentence.

Ferdaus was arrested back in February near the US Capitol in Washington, DC, as part of an anti-terrorism investigation by the FBI.

Ferdaus, a man of Moroccan descent who grew up in Massachusetts, was planning a suicide attack on the Capitol with explosives he received from undercover officers, whom he thought were associates of al-Qaeda. He also planned to deliver bomb-making materials for use in attacks against US troops in Iraq.

Xinhua

Afghan skirmishes, increasing militancy claims 38 lives in Taliban former stronghold

KABUL, 3 Nov — Increasing Taliban-linked militancy and conflicts have claimed the lives of 38 people including 14 civilians and two dozen anti-government militants over the past two weeks in the southern Kandahar and Helmand provinces—the former stronghold of Taliban, officials said. On Wednesday only, 14 people, all non-combatants, lost their lives in the militants' linked activities in the form of deadly roadside bombings in Kandahar and the neighbouring Helmand provinces, said officials.

In the latest violent incident, a roadside bomb presumably planted by Taliban militants, struck a civilian car in Marouf district of Kandahar Province on Wednesday evening killing six innocent civilians, a local

official confirmed.

"The tragic and deadly incident happened on Wednesday evening in Sang village of Marouf District, resulting in the death of six people including two women, three children and one man," spokesman for Kandahar's provincial administration Jawed Faisal told *Xinhua*. He also blamed the attack on the enemies of peace, a term used for Taliban militants by government officials.

However, the outfit fighting the government has yet to make comment. In a similar incident also on Wednesday in Dezro village of Musa Qala district in Helmand Province 555 km south of capital city Kabul, eight civilians including seven women were killed and two others injured,



People take photos at an exhibition in Beijing on 31 Oct, 2012, on the achievements of Chinese leaders in the past 10 years.

KYODO NEWS

Afghanistan

Interior Ministry confirmed in a statement released on Wednesday.

"A civilian car ran onto a roadside bomb planted by the Taliban terrorists in Dizro area of Musa Qala District at about 9 am local time, sparking a powerful blast and leaving eight civilians dead on the spot," the ministry said in a statement.

Two more civilians were wounded in the blast, the statement of the Interior Ministry said. Meantime, police in Kandahar, the birthplace of Taliban outfit, announced the elimination of two dozen Taliban fighters elsewhere in Kandahar Province over the past two weeks. "Twenty four Taliban rebels have been killed during series of operations over the past two weeks elsewhere

in Kandahar province," Rahmatullah Atrafi, deputy to Kandahar provincial police chief told a Press conference on Wednesday.

One armed Taliban fighter sustained injuries and three others have been detained during the operations, he added.

There were no casualties on the security forces, he said. Taliban militants have yet to comment. Taliban militants, who have been waging an insurgency of more than one decade, have often attacked Afghan forces and about 100,000 NATO-led forces with the roadside bombs or Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and suicide attacks. However, the lethal homemade weapons often inflict casualties on civilians.

Xinhua

Oil discovered in central Colombia

BOGOTA, 3 Nov — Canadian oil company Canacol Energy confirmed on Thursday that it has found oil at a well in central Colombia. Canacol President and CEO Charle Gamba said in a statement that he was "very pleased" with the initial results of the exploration well, "which confirms the existence of petroleum" in the upper layers.

"The result is very positive for our contract... We have located four similar prospects," based on recent 3D seismic surveys, he said.

During the first quarter of 2013, the company expects to begin drilling at the most promising well at Santa Isabel, known as Oso

Pardo, in central Colombia's Valle Medio del Magdalena region, Gamba added.

Gamba noted that they were also awaiting the results of soil composition studies from exploration work done at the deepest part of the well. Canacol Energy is a global Colombian-Canadian oil exploration and exploitation company with affiliates in Colombia and Ecuador. Currently, the company explores 18 blocks, including seven in production and 11 in the exploration phase.

In 2008, the Colombian government opened up the country for foreign investment by offering 150 exploration contracts to oil companies in a bid to revive its oil industry.

Xinhua



Ishikawa prefectural police officers enter an office of Swiss firm Schindler in Nagoya on 1 Nov, 2012, after a 63-year-old part-time hotel worker died the previous day after she was wedged between the floor of an ascending Schindler elevator and the frame of the building in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture.

KYODO NEWS

Jordan condemns Israeli plan to build military academy in East Jerusalem

AMMAN, 3 Nov — Jordan on Thursday voiced condemnation and rejection of Israel's plan to establish a military academy on Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem, Jordanian state-run *Petra* news agency reported.

Mount of Olives "is part of the Palestinian lands occupied in 1967," Jordanian Information Minister and

government spokesperson Samih Maayatah said, noting that these lands have been designated as occupied territory by the United Nations and the international law.

"The unacceptable and rejected Israeli settlement activities might undermine the already-faltering peace as well as efforts to arrive

at the two-state solution," he said, adding that the Israeli government is sending negative signals towards peace through resuming settlement activities and imposing a de facto status quo on the ground.

Maayatah urged the international community to intervene and end all forms of Israeli settlement activities and unilateral measures. He also stressed the need for concerted efforts to revive peace negotiations between the Palestinians and Israelis.

Xinhua

Secret Service agent found dead, apparent suicide

WASHINGTON, 3 Nov — A Secret Service agent assigned to President Barack Obama's protective detail was found dead on Saturday in an apparent suicide, a law enforcement source said on Thursday. Special agent Rafael Prieto was under investigation for having

an unreported romantic relationship with a foreign national, the source said.

The agent's death is being investigated by the District of Columbia police, said Max Milien, a spokesman for the Secret Service.

"Rafael Prieto has a

Six Russian sailors, one Estonian freed in Nigeria

LAGOS, 3 Nov — Six Russian sailors and an Estonian national working with a French oil and gas company and abducted by gunmen off coast of Nigeria's oil Delta have regained their freedom, a diplomatic source told *Xinhua* on Thursday. "Yes, they have been released unharmed," the source said in a brief response to *Xinhua*. The source declined further comments, saying this is a very delicate and confidential matter. The Russian Embassy in Nigeria also confirmed the release

in a tweet message that the crew of Bourbon Liberty 249, hijacked by Nigerian pirates on 15 October, have been released and will return home soon.

"Russia appreciates the contribution of Nigeria, France, Luxembourg and Estonia to releasing the crew of Bourbon Liberty 249," it added. On 15 October, pirates kidnapped six Russian citizens and one Estonian national, leaving the other nine crew members onboard a ship which was servicing hydrocarbon extraction platforms in the

shelf off the southern coast of Nigeria. The Bourbon Liberty 249, belonging to a French company, was used to tow anchors for oil rigs or mobile drilling rigs. The vessel's crew worked on maintenance of oil platforms off Nigeria's shores.

Piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea, running from Guinea on Africa's northwestern tip to Angola in the south, have been increasing in recent years, with Nigeria, Africa's largest oil producer, recording 293 cases of sea robbery and pirate attacks between 2003 and 2008. In February, Nigeria and 10 other countries including the United States, Belgium and Spain launched a naval exercise against piracy, oil theft, smuggling and other maritime security challenges plaguing the West and Central African waters, especially the Gulf of Guinea.—Xinhua

A train carries crude oil on the Trans-Siberian Railway near Vladivostok in the Russian Far East on 18 Oct, 2012. — KYODO NEWS

US

distinguished 20-year career with the Secret Service that was marked by accomplishment, dedication, friendships and the Secret Service is mourning a valued colleague," said Milien.

Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

Daniel Craig is the best Bond: Sean Bean

LOS ANGELES, 3 Nov— Actor Sean Bean feels Daniel Craig is one of the best James Bond stars ever. Bean, 53, who played Bond villain Alec Trevelyan in 1995 hit GoldenEye, said Craig has always been a stand-out actor, reported Showbiz spy. “He’s always been an actor that stands out, and I remember when he first got Bond and people were slugging him off before he’d even started, and he’s managed to turn that around and stick it back up ‘em! And

he’s probably one of the best Bond’s that’s ever been.” “I like Daniel Craig, I worked with him on Sharpe, one of the very early ones, maybe the second one we did — Sharpe’s Revenge? A long, long time ago and he was good in that then. He had a lot of pressure on him, but he coped very well with it and turned out to be a great Bond,” he said. Craig has played the British spy in three films so far — Casino Royale, Quantum of Solace and Skyfall.—Reuters



Bean, 53, who played Bond villain Alec Trevelyan in 1995 hit GoldenEye, said Craig has always been a stand-out actor.

PTI

Johnny Depp is dating Amber Heard again

NEW DELHI, 3 Nov— Johnny Depp is dating Amber Heard again — after wooing her back with handwritten poems and flowers.

The 49-year-old actor — who confirmed his split from Vanessa Paradis after 14 years together in June — enjoyed a brief romance with the 26-year-old actress in the summer after meeting her on the set of their film ‘The Rum Diary’.

However, Amber ended their dating arrangement after deciding she wanted to be single.

But Johnny decided not to give up on the blonde

beauty and sent her a personally penned poem and a bouquet of roses every day throughout September to convince her to give him another chance, and his plan eventually worked and she flew out to his private island, Little Hall’s Pond Cay in the Bahamas, for a mini vacation.

A source told The Sun newspaper: “Although Amber and Johnny have electric chemistry, she felt that as they are both out of long-term relationships, they needed to be single for a while.

PTI

Anushka Sharma’s role in Jab Tak Hai Jaan

NEW DELHI, 3 Nov— Details about Anushka Sharma’s role in Yash Chopra’s swan song Jab Tak Hai Jaan have now been revealed. Anushka, who co-stars for the second

time with Shah Rukh Khan, plays a journalist with the Discovery Channel producing a documentary on the character played by SRK.

Anushka’s character in the film is called Akira,

not Muskaan as previously thought. Jab tak hai Jaan will tell the story of the central character Samar — an army officer played by Shah Rukh Khan — through the eyes of Akira and the documentary-within-a-film which is called The Man Who Cannot Die. “Hi. I am Akira. I work for the Discovery Channel.

And I am on a quest to discover the truth behind the compelling story of The Man Who Cannot Die,” said Anushka Sharma on the release of her character in the movie.

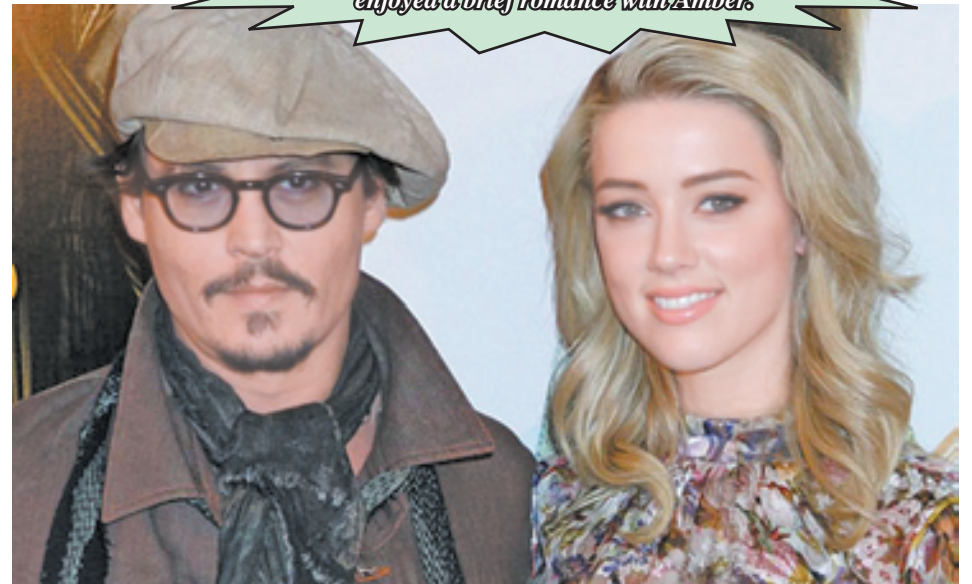
Anushka first co-starred with Shah Rukh Khan in Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi, her debut film. The movie was produced by Yash Raj Film as was her next few movies Badmaash Company, Band Baaja baraat and Ladies

Vs Ricky Bahl. Anushka will be next seen in Vishal Bhardwaj’s Matru Ki Bijlee Ka Mandola.—PTI



Anushka’s character in the film is called Akira, not Muskaan as previously thought.

Johnny Depp, who confirmed his split from Vanessa Paradis after 14 years together in June, enjoyed a brief romance with Amber.



Rolls-Royce used by Princess Diana to fetch 1.2 million pounds

LONDON, 3 Nov—A bulletproof Rolls-Royce used by Princess Diana on her first trip to the US is expected to fetch more than 1.2 million pounds at an auction.

The Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow was bought new in 1979 by the British Embassy. But it didn’t come into service until 1982 after engineers spent three years and USD 200,000 armoring the luxury car to repel bullets, grenades and even small bombs, the Daily Mail reported.

The silver limousine was used by the UK Embassy in Washington and was the car which transported Princess Diana and Prince Charles on their state trip in November 1985. During the trip, the Royals were frequently seen in the Rolls-Royce as they visited US President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy.

The Royal engagement also saw Princess Diana, then 24, dance with John Travolta at a gala at the White

House. During the trip there were a number of anti-British Irish Republican Army (IRA) supporters protesting against the couple — with security as important as ever.

They were well protected by the Rolls-Royce which was fitted with a 272kg windscreen and equally hefty rear window. The side windows, which are also bulletproof, were sealed against possible toxic gas exposure, and the exterior trim was fitted with intercoms.

The car is going to be auctioned off on eBay by the Volo Auto Museum near Chicago on 9 November — exactly 27 years after Diana’s visit. “We just thought it was an armour-plated Rolls Royce that had been embassy-owned. But after digging through the documents and doing some research, we figured out what the car really was,” Brian Grams, Volo Auto Museum director, said.

PTI



The Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow was bought new in 1979 by the British Embassy.—PTI

Jodie Foster to get lifetime achievement award at Golden Globes

LOS ANGELES, 3 Nov—Double-Oscar winner Jodie Foster will receive a lifetime achievement award at the Golden Globes ceremony in January, recognizing her 40-year career as an actress, director and movie producer, organizers said on Thursday.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), which organizes the annual Golden Globe awards, said Foster will join the likes of past winners Lucille Ball, Barbra Streisand, Al Pacino, Morgan Freeman and Judy Garland, and become the 2013 recipient of the Cecil B DeMille award.

“Jodie is a multifaceted woman that has achieved immeasurable amounts of success and will continue to do so in her career,” HFPA president Aida Takla-O’Reilly said in a statement.

“Her ambition, exuberance and grace have helped pave the way for budding artists in this business. She’s truly one of a kind,” she

added. Foster, 49, began her career filming commercials at the age of three and won international fame with her role as a streetwise teen in the 1976 film “Taxi Driver.”

She has since appeared in more than 40 movies, winning best actress Oscars for her role as a rape victim in “The Accused” and as the FBI agent in 1991 thriller “The Silence of The Lambs.”

Foster also branched

out into directing (“Little Man Tate”) and producing for both film and television through her production company Egg Pictures.

Foster will be presented with her award at the Golden Globes ceremony in Beverly Hills on 13 January, where the HFPA will also announce its picks for the best films and performances in film and television of 2012.

Reuters



Actress Jodie Foster presents the award for movie of the year at the 2012 MTV Movie Awards in Los Angeles, on 3 June, 2012.—REUTERS



Zagora too strong in Filly and Mare Turf

ARCADIA, (California) , 3 Nov — French-bred mare Zagora has stormed home to win the Breeders Cup Filly & Mare Turf in what will likely be the last start of her career at Santa Anita Park on Friday.

Due to be sold at auction later this month, Martin Schwartz's five-year-old stormed down the home straight with jockey

Javier Castellano aboard to overtake the fancied Marketing Mix and hold off the highly favoured The Fugue. Zagora, at 9-1 odds, claimed her eighth win of her career, and a sixth graded stakes triumph. Having come to America in the fall of 2010, Zagora was not among the pre-race favourites and was expected to struggle at the mile-and-a-quarter distance.

But she was all business down the stretch coming from third at the final turn to win in 1:59.70. Zagora prevailed by three-quarters of a length, giving trainer Chad C Brown just his second Breeders Cup win. "She had everything go her way today," Brown said. "She got the turf she likes, she got a great trip and she's been training great. Everything came together for her today and it couldn't happen to a horse that deserved it more."

Jockey Javier Castellano celebrates atop Zagora after winning the running of the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf thoroughbred horse race at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California, on 2 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Reuters

Soccer

Adriano a law unto himself at Flamengo



Adriano

in August. "I know that I can't waste this opportunity because it will be the last one I get," Adriano said upon signing for the Rio outfit following his second Achilles tendon operation in two years.

Adriano's shot at redemption came less than six months after the former Inter Milan and Roma forward was sacked by Corinthians for allegedly missing 67 physiotherapy sessions. More than two months have passed and Adriano's comeback pledge now seems about as empty as his recent goal-scoring tally. He remains considerably overweight and is yet to even be considered by coach Dorival Junior for a place in Flamengo's match-day squad. The latest in a series of scandals erupted on Friday when a video of Adriano in an incoherent state was posted on the internet.

The footage was reportedly recorded at a party in a Rio slum on Thursday night, just hours after he missed a compulsory training session "for personal reasons". He also failed to attend training on Friday. Adriano, who was told in August that three infractions would be enough to have his contract rescinded, has now missed six training sessions in 10 weeks. It makes a mockery of Flamengo and Adriano's repeated "last chance" claims and brings into question the credibility of a club that allows a player to seemingly act without reproach. Dorival on Friday gave the impression the fallen star would again be shown leniency. "His absence from training doesn't take away the possibility that he could return to playing before the end of the year," Dorival said.—Reuters

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 Nov — It is difficult to know whose credibility has taken a greater battering from Adriano's recent catalogue of off-field controversies. The player himself or Flamengo, the club that gave him his "last chance" by offering the troubled 30-year-old a contract

Knicks win rousing season opener over champion Heat

Basketball

NEW YORK, 3 Nov — Carmelo Anthony helped lead the New York Knicks to a rousing 104-84 win over the NBA champions Miami Heat on Friday in New York City's first sporting event since the devastating impact of the powerful superstorm Sandy.

Anthony topped all scorers with 30 points and hauled in a team-high 10

games.

The Heat also beat New York three times during the regular season, so the Knicks had something to prove.

"You always want to have good game, no matter what," said Knicks point guard Raymond, who scored 14 points and had a game-high nine assists. "But it's always good to beat the defending champs."

12 advantage into a 30-12 cushion to the delight of the roaring Garden crowd.

The Knicks led 33-17 after a first quarter in which they shot 60 percent from the floor, including a red-hot, 5-of-8 from beyond the arc as Anthony notched 16 points.

Miami cut the lead down to 11 at 55-44 by halftime but New York came out with renewed fire in the third



Miami Heat centre Chris Bosh (1) leaps to block New York Knicks guard Ronnie Brewer (11) as he looks to shoot in the first quarter of their NBA basketball game at Madison Square Garden in New York, on 2 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Mourinho looks for 100th win at home to Zaragoza

MADRID, 3 Nov — Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho sees one of the major selection problems for his side resolved ahead of Saturday's Primera Liga game at home to Zaragoza, a game where he could claim his 100th victory as Alvaro Arbeloa has recovered from the muscle injury he suffered in the middle of October and will be able to return at left back for the vital Primera Liga tie.

Arbeloa's return will end the controversy, which Mourinho helped to stoke with some unfair criticism of Madrid B-Team coach Alberto Toril about who should cover for the injured trio of Arbeloa, Marcelo and Fabio Coentrao in recent games. Mourinho opted to use Michael Essien, arguing



Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho

that B-team defender Nacho Fernandez was playing as a central defender for Madrid's reserves and not therefore able to play at left back for the first team.

In his argument Mourinho conveniently

opted to mention that Essien is a central midfielder and not even left footed, the good news is that Arbeloa's return will allow Essien to return to his best role on the pitch at a moment when he is needed there.—Reuters

rebounds, while long-range shooter Steve Novak had 17 points in New York's season opener.

LeBron James scored 23 points to pace Miami, who dropped to 1-1 after an opening win against the Boston Celtics.

It was the Knicks' first home game since last season's opening-round playoff series against the Heat, which they lost in five

After a moment of silence to show support for victims of the storm, the Knicks came out firing, relying on their three-point sharp-shooting and some defensive tenacity to take quick command in what the New Yorkers viewed as a measuring stick game.

New York used a 10-0 run from 7-6 and later in the first quarter scored 11 points in a row to turn a 19-

quarter, extending the lead to 23 points, boosted by two three-pointers from crowd favourite Novak and the Knicks were never seriously challenged.

New York shot a blistering 19-for-36 from three-point range as the penetration of their point guards created wide open opportunities from long range.

Reuters

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(4-11-12 09:30 am ~ 5-11-12 09:30 am) MST
 * News
 * The month filled with various celestial bodies, the night when plants have medicinal property
 * News
 * The World under the Silver Moon's Light (Manuscript Contest for Theravada Buddhism)
 * Culture Stage
 * News
 * Short Story "Doubt"
 * News
 * Stylish Creation of Designer
 * News

* Medicinal Properties of Frangipani Flower
 * International Myanmar ICT Exhibition 2012
 * News
 * The Meaning of Flowers
 * News
 * Global IT Firms Join ICT Show Myanmar 2012
 * A Glimpse of Japan's Heritage "Mt. Fuji, Japan's Sacred Mountain"
 * News
 * Graceful & Elegant Beauty of Myanmar Ladies
 * The National Level Workshop for Energy and Electric Sectors of Development Project
 * Myanmar Movie "Like A Love Story in Bioscope"

MYANMAR TV (4-11-2012, Sunday)

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. (38) Phyar Mingalars
 11:00 am
 5. Martial Song
 11:10 am
 6. Musical Programme
 12:40 pm
 7. How It's Works
 1:15 pm
 8. Myanmar Movie
 4:20 pm
 9. Dance of National Race
 4:30 pm
 10. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Eco)
 4:45 pm
 11. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
 4:50 pm
 12. Sing & Enjoy
 5:35 pm
 13. "Launch Pentavalent vaccine including Haemophilus influenzae type-b and 2nd Immunization
 6:20 pm
 14. Cartoon Series
 6:40 pm
 15. Tamyethnar Takwetsar
 8:00 pm
 16. News
 17. TV Drama Series
 18. New Melody
 19. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

Pests destroy rice in Mudon, Chaungsonne Townships



Farmers plant rice seedlings in rain-fed field. (Photo- Aye Min Soe)

NAY PYI TAW, 3 NOV — Rice in Mudon and Chaungsonne Township in Mon State were destroyed by pests in early October before harvest time.

According to the agriculture minister of Mon State, over 7000 acres in Mudon Township and over 1000 acres in Chaungsonne Township were damaged by the pests.

The damage has caused "keeping sickles away from the rice field" situation for local farmers who had expected to harvest high yield as the weather was favourable for rice in the Mon State this year and they totally lost from their first

harvest, said the regional minister at the two-day workshop on development of agricultural sector held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation here.

"What happened in Mudon Township looks like the cancer disease, when we know the disease, we are late to protect the disease," he said.

The regional minister sought advices from the governmental agriculturalists to make preparation and to assist the farmers not to experience such kind of misfortune next year.

There are 10 townships in Mon State. —NLM

NLM Word! Learning English

Diplomacy, diplomacy and diplomacy again! This week, we are going to learn some diplomatic wordings.

"Soft power"

Gennady Gatilov Deputy Foreign Minister of Russia Moscow will effectively use non-military means to achieve its diplomatic goals, the deputy minister said in a Wednesday meeting. Russian will extend cultural, informational and humanitarian presence abroad to strengthen its "soft power". The word was coined by Harvard scholar Joseph Nye to mention non-military ways used to cover influence of the country over others.

"Good public diplomacy"

Xinhua report Xinhua reported that "many" see joint concert of China-US military bands as "good public diplomacy". Perhaps, it is another synonym for "soft power". The two superpowers "found harmony" through the concert, the report said. It seems "soft power" is a widely followed fashion in diplomacy.

"They probably won't string us along that long."

Tayyip Erdogan Prime Minister of Turkey Membership of latest Nobel Peace Prize winner European Union is being sought after by a number of nations. Turkey is one among them and trying to join the EU since 2005. The Turkish premier said Tuesday in Berlin he didn't think the EU will not keep his country outside till 2023. But he warned that, if core EU members still refused to accept his country, they will lose Turkey.

East Coast power recovery slows, 3.5 million still in dark

WASHINGTON, 3 NOV — US utilities restored power on Friday to about a million East Coast homes and businesses plunged into darkness by Hurricane Sandy, a slowdown from the past two days, as crews began to work on the hardest-hit areas that may take days to fix.

About 3.5 million customers remained without power as of Friday afternoon, according to US Department of Energy figures based on utility reports.

The 1 million customers restored on Friday was down from the 2.1 million who had power restored on Wednesday and the 1.6 million on Thursday, the data showed.

Utilities say they typically look to restore power to the biggest blocks of customers first, then tackle more difficult, isolated problems.

They have warned it could yet be another week

before all the lights are back on. More than 1.2 million homes and businesses in New York and 1.4 million in New Jersey remained without power on Friday, including many of the dozens of oil terminals along the harbor that are critical links in the fuel supply chain. Some operators had brought in generators to resume flows.

FirstEnergy Corp, the holding company hardest hit by the storm, has restored power to 82 percent of the outages in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Maryland, where wind and rain was the primary cause of outages.

But in New Jersey, where a direct hit from the massive storm inflicted catastrophic damage across the state, FirstEnergy said flood waters and substantial debris were still impeding restoration efforts in many areas.

Reuters

Chinese Ye wins 200m medley while Liu Zige dim



Olympic champion Ye Shiwen of China competes during the women's 200m medley final at the short course swimming World Cup 2012 in Beijing, capital of China, on 2 Nov, 2012. — XINHUA

BEIJING, 3 NOV — London Olympic double winner Ye Shiwen claimed the women's 200-metre individual medley gold medal at the short course

who won the 200m and 400m medley gold and renewed the 200m medley world record at the London Games, touched the wall first in two minutes and 6.10 seconds. Zsuzsanna Jakabos of Hungary was second at 2:08.22, while her compatriot Katinka Hosszu was the third in 2:08.35.

"I feel good," said Ye. "Although it was not my best result, which was within 2:05, it was still good." "I am about 85 percent of my peak form," Ye said, who finished third in the heat earlier Friday. "I didn't feel good in the morning, but the final was OK." "I hope I can be on my top level at the World Championships in

Turkey this December," she added. The bronze medallist Hosszu brought her country a gold medal in the 800m freestyle in 8:21.49. She also took part in the 200m free and 200m backstroke, but failed to stand on the podium.

"I feel rather tired," she said. "But I wanted to do something different, so I decided to do my best in every event." It seemed that Beijing Olympic 200m butterfly champion Liu Zige was still struggling with her form as the 23-year-old only took a fifth finish in the women's 100m fly at 58.87. Inge Dekker of the Netherlands won the gold in 57.62. —Xinhua

IMF deputy chief to visit Senegal in November

WASHINGTON, 3 NOV — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced on Friday that its deputy managing director Zhu Min would visit Senegal on 5-6 Nov for discussion on economic issues.

The Washington-based global lender said in a statement that Zhu will lead an IMF delegation to a symposium on monetary integration and changes in the international financial system, on the occasion of the West African Central Bank (BCEAO)'s 50th anniversary.

Zhu will hold discussions with the Senegalese authorities focusing on the medium-term economic outlook for the country and the challenges ahead, the IMF

noted. "I am very much looking forward to my visit to Senegal as deputy managing director of the IMF. Senegal has made significant progress over the last few years," Zhu said ahead of his visit. "Looking at the medium term, the challenge will be the pursuit of policies to achieve strong, sustainable, and inclusive growth, and to reduce poverty in an uncertain global environment."

During his visit, Zhu will also meet with senior officials of Senegal and take part in a round-table discussion with participants from the private sector, academia, and civil society organizations, the IMF said.

Xinhua

Establishing closer ties between Myanmar and EC discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov— President U Thein Sein received a delegation led by President of European Commission Mr José Manuel Barroso and party at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this morning.

Also present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Aung Kyi, U Soe Thein and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Set Aung and departmental heads.

The visiting EC president was accompanied by Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to Myanmar Mr David Lipman and high-ranking officials.

They frankly exchanged views on establishing closer ties between Myanmar and EU, EU support for peace process and assistance for rehabilitation tasks, granting Generalized System of Preference for enabling Myanmar people enjoy the fruits of economic development in the short period, capacity building



President U Thein Sein and European Commission President Mr José Manuel Barroso and party pose for documentary photo.

MNA

of education and health staff, aids of EU in disaster risk reduction and

improvement of living standards, providing technical assistances and

trainings, bringing an end to Rakhine State crisis that can tarnish the image of

the country, appointment of ambassador at European Union Office in Yangon,

and EU's full support for Myanmar's reform process.—MNA

Domestic conflicts, a barrier to transition

YANGON, 3 Nov—"Our country is holding great opportunities and initiating historic political reforms. Simultaneously, we would have to bring peace to all of Myanmar citizens. Continuing domestic conflicts are a barrier to the transition," Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min said at signing ceremony of joint declaration

at Myanmar Peace Centre (MPC) in Yangon. This morning

European Commission President Mr Jose' Manuel Barroso also delivered an address at the ceremony.

Union Minister U Aung Min and the EC President signed the joint declaration on EU support to peace-building in Myanmar.

The ceremony was

also attended by Union Ministers U Ohn Myint and U Than Htay, Yangon region ministers, representatives from political parties, ambassadors, officials of embassies in Yangon, local and foreign media and invited guests.

Then, joint declaration on EU support to peace-building in Myanmar was released.—MNA

Chono, Abe come through to lift Giants to Japan Series title

TOKYO, 3 Nov— Hisayoshi Chono homered, captain Shinnosuke Abe drove in the tiebreaking run in the seventh inning and the Yomiuri Giants edged the Nippon Ham Fighters 4-3 in Game 6 to claim their 22nd Japan Series title on Saturday

night.

The Central League champs won their first Series title in three years against the same opponent they beat in 2009, again winning the best-of-seven four games to two. For Giants manager Tatsunori Hara, it was his

third title at the Yomiuri helm.

"We played some nail-biters, but we fought through them together," Hara said. "I'm extremely satisfied."

"The Fighters under manager (Hideki) Kuriyama are an outstanding team and a worthy opponent."

Giants ace Tetsuya Utsumi, who won Games 1 and 5, was named the Series MVP.

"The last time we won, I didn't contribute much," he said. "This time I am overjoyed."

After coming back from a 2-0 deficit to tie the Series 2-all, the Pacific League pennant winners lost the next two and failed in their

Joint declaration on EU support to peace-building in Myanmar



Both the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the European Union acknowledge the currently offered historic chances for securing lasting peace in Myanmar.

The prospect of creating trust, building peace, enhancing the respect for human rights and helping economic prosperity in regions emerging from violent conflict must not be missed.

The Government of

the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the European Union are determined to cooperate closely in this joint endeavour.

The Myanmar Peace Centre, as established by Presidential Decree, shall serve as a platform for inclusive and non-partisan dialogue. It shall reach out to all groups and communities connected to the peace process, including international and national, governmental and non-governmental, individuals

and organizations at both the regional and central levels.

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the European Union expect and believe that the Myanmar Peace Centre will be a key element for achieving a just and lasting peace in Myanmar. The European Union is keen to support the Myanmar Peace Centre in the carrying out of its important mandate.

Done at Yangon, 3 November 2012

For the European Union

José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission

For the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

U Aung Min
Union Minister at the President's Office



bid for a third Series title and first since winning it all under American manager Trey Hillman in 2006. Kenji Yano had a two-run single in the opening frame and Chono's two-out solo homer made it

3-0 in the second inning at Tokyo Dome.

But just when it looked like Giants starter Hirokazu Sawamura would be putting on another one-man show after his eight-inning, 1-0 decision in Game 2, Sho

Nakata struck with a three-run drive off the right-hander with two outs to tie the game 3-all in the sixth.

Sawamura, the 2011 Rookie of the Year, yielded three runs and six hits in six innings.—Kyodo