

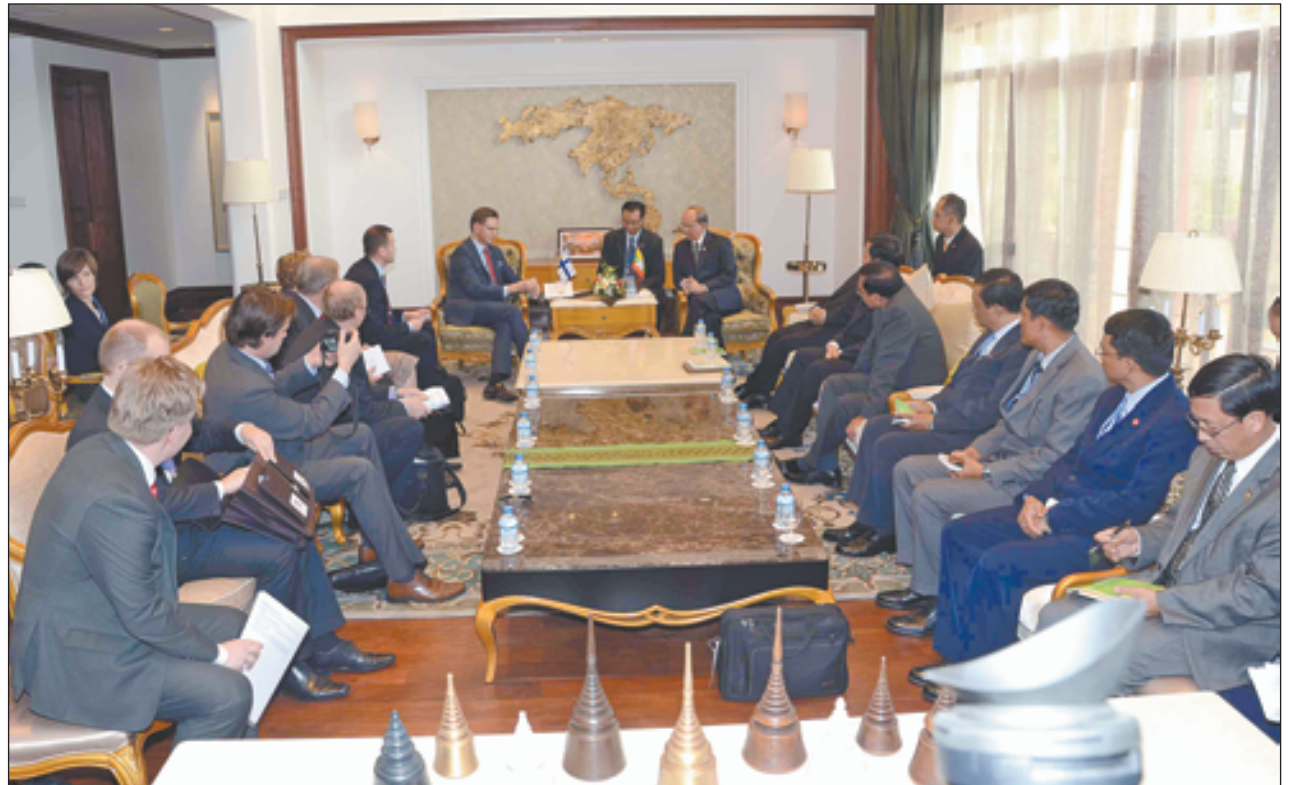
President U Thein Sein holds talks with Finnish PM in Vientiane

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein held talks with Prime Minister of Finland Mr Jyri Katainen in Vientiane in Lao People's Democratic Republic at 4 pm today.

Also present at the meeting were Union ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein and U Kyaw Lwin and deputy minister Dr Win Myint and senior officials while Finnish prime minister was accompanied by the ambassador of Finland to Myanmar and the deputy

foreign minister of Finland and senior officials.

During the meeting, the two sides openly discussed matters related to progress of the reforms in Myanmar, tour of Finland businessmen to observe investment opportunities in Myanmar, investment and technological assistance from Finland for the economic development of Myanmar, establishing workshops and factories in Myanmar to produce value-added products in order to create job opportunities, exploration of oil and natural gas and



mining sector based on natural resources, providing assistance on technology and cooperation for the development of education sector in Myanmar and

seeking support of the members of the EU to lift the remaining sanctions against Myanmar to be able to accelerate the reform efforts.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein holds talks with Prime Minister of Finland Mr Jyri Katainen.—MNA

Myanmar, Luxembourg keen on economic cooperation



President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Prime Minister of Luxembourg Mr Jean-Claude Juncker.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Prime Minister of Luxembourg

Mr Jean-Claude Juncker at Doung Chanh in Vientiane, Laos this evening.

They had a frank discussion on cooperation in tourism industry development in Myanmar, utilization of human resources and rich natural resources, investment of Luxembourg businessmen in Myanmar, signing of agreement against double tariff between the two countries, resumption of generalized scheme of preferences (GSP) to Myanmar, and bilateral cooperation in various sectors.

Also present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein and U Kyaw Lwin, and Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint.

Luxembourg Prime Minister Mr Jean-Claude Juncker was accompanied by Development and Cooperation Minister, Health Minister and officials.—MNA

INSIDE

Last NASA space shuttle becomes museum piece



The space shuttle Atlantis rolls down Kennedy Parkway on its way to its new home at the Kennedy Space Centre Visitor Complex in Cape Canaveral, Florida in this handout photo supplied by NASA on 2 Nov, 2012.



Hurricane Sandy damaged areas are seen along Rt 35 in Bayhead, New Jersey, on 2 Nov, 2012 in this handout image courtesy of the governor's office.

Denmark opens embassy in Yangon

YANGON, 4 Nov — Mrs Helle Thorning Schmidt, Prime Minister of Denmark, attended a ceremony to open the Embassy of Denmark at No. 7 on Pyithu Road in Mayangon Township at 1:30 pm today.

In her opening address, she said the new chapter between the governments of Myanmar and Denmark and between the two peoples was opened today to strengthen the relations and friendship between the two countries.

Union Minister U Aung Min expressed his hope that the bilateral friendship would help development of all sectors, especially, between the two peoples and social organizations.

The opening ceremony was also attended by members of the delegation led by the Prime Minister of Denmark, Union ministers, diplomats and departmental officials.

The Denmark delegation led by Prime Minister Mrs Helle Thorning Schmidt arrived here at 8:50 am by special flight and they were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and diplomats from the Embassy of Denmark.



Opening ceremony of Danish Embassy in Yangon in progress.

MNA

The delegation held talks with Union Ministers at the President Office U Aung Min and U Soe Thein, and Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint at the Chatrium Hotel here.

After the opening ceremony of the embassy, the delegation flew to Nay Pyi Taw. They held talks with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the Pyithu Hluttaw Rules of Law and Peace and Stability Committee and held a press conference.

The delegation left Nay Pyi Taw by special flight this evening.

MNA

Deepavali Eve dinner held



Union Minister Thura U Myint Maung at Deepavali Eve dinner.—MNA

YANGON, 4 Nov — Chairman U Maung Shwe of Myanmar-India Business Entrepreneurs Association ignited the lights. Present at the dinner were Yangon Region Electric and Industry Minister U Nyan Tun Oo, ambassadors from foreign embassies, departmental heads and invited guests.

Those present were entertained with Indian songs.—MNA

Chairman U Maung Shwe of Myanmar-India Business Entrepreneurs Association ignited the lights. Present at the dinner were Yangon Region Electric and Industry Minister U Nyan Tun Oo, ambassadors from foreign embassies, departmental heads and invited guests.

Myanmar, Thailand vow to triple trade volume

YANGON, 4 Nov — Myanmar and Thailand vowed to triple the 2009's trade volume in 2015 at the sixth Myanmar-Thai Trade Joint Commission meeting at Royal Orchid Sheraton in Bangkok, Thailand on 2 November.

Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Thai delegation led by Minister of Commerce Mr Boonsong Teriyapirom attended the meeting which focused on promoting bilateral trade and investment, cooperation

in agricultural produce and industrial products trade, transportation, banking, tourism and service industries.

The Union Minister also held a private meeting with the Thai Minister to share views on bilateral trade.

On 1 November, the Myanmar delegation led by Director-General of Directorate of Trade U Kyaw Htoo and Director-General of Trade Negotiation Department Mrs Piamol Charoenpao held senior officials meeting on bilateral trade.

MNA

Maruart at International Modern Living, Fashion and Cosmetics Exhibition

YANGON, 4 Nov — Korean decoration materials producer Maruart floors and Silky wallpapers were put on display at Myanmar International Modern Living, Fashion and Cosmetics Exhibition 2012 that took place at Tatmadaw Convention Centre here on 1-4 November.

The floors and wallpapers can be easily installed and cleaned.

Enob brand sofas, settees and mattresses are also on display at the exhibition.—MNA

Those present were entertained with Indian songs.—MNA



Modern furniture on display at Myanmar International Modern Living, Fashion and Cosmetics Exhibition 2012.

MNA

Buddha images of PhaungdawU pagoda concludes procession

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — Buddha images of Inlay PhaungdawU pagoda were carried back to the throne on 2 November.

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, state ministers and officials

conveyed the Buddha images back to the shrine and donated meal, lights, water and robe to the Buddha images.

They then enjoyed the boat race and awarded the winners.

MNA

Private training schools crucial in nurturing skilled labour: Union Labour Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint called for nurturing skilled and semi skilled labour, signaling his ministry's assistance for development of private training centres in producing skilled labour.

The Union Minister while visiting Htet Oo Proficiency Training School in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone yesterday morning stressed it is urgently required to nurture skilled and semi skilled labour force not only for local but also for foreign labour market. He described ASEAN free

flow of labour in 2014 as a grave challenge to Myanmar workers who he said need to be ready as skilled labour. Private -owned training schools are important in this process, noted the minister who promised the ministry's assistance for development of such schools in anticipation of influx of FDI.

The Union Minister then visited Great cold storage and Shwe Yamon cold storage. He called for harmonious cooperation between employers and employees to build a peaceful workplace as a mean for future success of the business.—MNA

555 Office Tower to emerge on Merchant Street

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — The agreement on construction of 555 Merchant Street Office Tower Development Project on Merchant Street in Yangon was signed yesterday morning at Saya San Plaza, attended by Union Construction Minister U Kyaw Lwin and responsible persons.

CB Bank Chairman U Khin Maung Aye, National

Group of Companies Chairman U Htay Aung, Executive Director of Kawa Oil Co Mr Khalilrudin Bin Shehabuddeen and contractor Irie Miyake Architects & Engineer Co Ltd signed the agreement and exchanged the notes.

The two sides gave a press conference at Orchid Hotel on Botahtung Pagoda Street.

MNA

WORLD

Early voters turn out to vote in Chicago **Poll**

CHICAGO, 4 Nov — While most US citizens will vote next Tuesday, some of the country's early voters are already out to cast their ballots. Ms Megan Keskitao from Chicago turned out to vote on Saturday, saying "I hope our new president will be our old president."

Keskitao and her husband came to the management office of the Horner Park in Chicago Saturday morning, and joined a queue of some 30 people meandering upward to the second floor to cast their votes for the US president.

Living only a block away from the early voting site, Keskitao and her husband hope Obama will win the election. "I don't think (Mitt) Romney's policies will help our nation," she said, adding "I think (Barack) Obama has much better ideas."

The official voting day actually falls on 6 November. But to address the need of those who may not be able to show up on the voting day, the city of Chicago opened early voting sites in 50 wards from 29 September to 3 November.

"It's great they have early voting allowing people who have stuff they have to do on the election day to

still have their voice heard," said Paoma Christy. Christy has come to the Bucktown-Wicker Park Library to cast her vote. Her choice is Obama.

"He (Obama) is being a little bit more honest than the other candidate, and I appreciate that," said the 23-year-old college graduate. Christy thinks that Obama has better plans for what needs to happen in this country. "I don't think Romney has a clue, personally," she said frankly.

Dan Schuessler, a 27-year-old on-line project manager, also turned up on Saturday. "I think he (Obama) is leading the country in a right direction right now. If he is elected, his policy, his stance, issues have been consistent."

Xinhua



David Ewing hangs a piece of campaign literature on a door knob as he canvasses for US President Barack Obama in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on 3 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—US President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney remain essentially tied in the race for the White House with razor thin margins in four key swing states, according to a Reuters/Ipsos daily tracking poll released on Saturday.

Three days before the 6 November election, both

men are neck and neck in Ohio, Florida, Virginia and Colorado, the poll showed.

Nationally, the electorate is divided. Of likely voters polled, 47 percent said they would back Obama, the Democratic incumbent, while 46 percent said they would back Romney, the former Massachusetts governor. The results fall within the polls'

Israeli president: Abbas "a real partner for peace"

Middle East

JERUSALEM, 4 Nov — Israeli President Shimon Peres on Saturday exalted Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, calling him a "real partner for peace." Peres' kind words to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) president were prompted by an interview of Abbas with

Channel 2 news on Friday, in which Abbas called to resume peace talks with Israel and negated any type of violence as legitimate in the conflict with Israel.

During the interview, Abbas utterly denounced all kinds of terrorist acts and violence, stressing that there won't be another intifada (violent rising) or use of "violence or weapons," and that the Palestinians are striving for a peaceful, diplomatic solution.

He reiterated the PNA's commitment to the two-state solution according to the 1967 lines and said he is ready to immediately resume peace talks with Israel, which came to a halt in 2010 due to Israel's expansion of the West Bank settlements.

"These are significant words," Peres said in a statement sent to Xinhua,

"We must treat them with the utmost respect.

These positions stand exactly in line with those of Israel and with the clear majority of the population, which supports the solution of two states for two peoples." Peres added that Abbas' words were "brave and important," and said he had confirmed his eligibility as a true partner for peace "through his deeds and his words."

"Israel is a country that seeks peace, and as such we must stretch out our hand for peace to a leader like him... He rejects terrorism and won't allow the outbreak of a violent third intifada. His words are courageous... There is a real hope for peace," he concluded. However, during the Friday night interview, Abbas also criticized Israel mainly for its expansion of West Bank settlements.—Xinhua

credibility interval, a tool used to account for statistical variation in Internet-based polls.

The two men have been locked in a tight race for weeks. Both are doing final campaign swings over the weekend, trying to sway a small group of remaining undecided voters and to encourage their supporters to get to the polls.

A handful of states that traditionally swing between voting for Republican and Democratic presidential candidates will determine who wins the White House. All of them are close.

In one of the biggest prizes of the election — Ohio — Obama has a very slight lead over Romney with 46 percent compared to 45 percent support among likely voters, the poll showed.

In Florida, another big prize, they are tied at 47

percent. In Virginia, Obama leads Romney 48 percent to 45 percent among likely voters. In Colorado, Romney leads Obama 47 percent to 45 percent.

"It's really going to come down to the wire," said Ipsos pollster Julia Clark, adding that Obama still had a better likelihood of winning the 270 state electoral votes needed to secure victory.

But with the data tight in the swing states for both candidates, she added: "I don't think we can count any of them in the bag yet."

"The electoral map does favour Obama," Clark said. "It's just so on a razor's edge."

The precision of the Reuters/Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval, which in the case of the national poll is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for likely voters.—Reuters

UK mulls Gulf warplane deployment **UK**

BEIJING, 4 Nov — Britain is considering stationing war planes in the Persian Gulf, amid continued international tension over Iran's nuclear programme. The possible deployment of the "Eurofighter Typhoon" follows talks with the United Arab Emirates to bolster the UK's presence in the region.

The decision on whether to send the planes will be made by Prime Minister David Cameron, after further talks with the rulers of Dubai and Abu

Dhabi. The UK says the move is not aimed at Iran although it's likely that Iran, along with many international security analysts, will see it that way. Israel is reported to support the idea.

Meanwhile, Iran's Press TV says the country has developed a vertical take-off and landing drone, to be unveiled in the near future. Iranian experts say the drone is the first of its kind anywhere in the world.

Xinhua



Damaged buildings are pictured in the Qastal al-Harami area, in Aleppo city on 3 Nov, 2012, after clashes between Free Syrian Army fighters and forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad.—REUTERS

Syrian rebels attack air base to secure north-south corridor

BEIRUT, 4 Nov—Syrian rebels attacked a military airport in the country's north on Saturday in a push to cut off Syria's biggest city Aleppo from the capital Damascus, and secure a strategic north-south corridor.

President Bashar al-Assad's forces appear over-stretched with fewer fighters on the ground and have sought to limit rebel advances with far superior firepower, increasingly from the air and especially in the Aleppo and Damascus areas.

Fighters from the Islamist Front to Liberate Syria said they launched

the attack on the Taftanaz military airport in the northern province of Idlib in the early hours on Saturday, using rocket launchers and at least three tanks.

The government has used Taftanaz to fuel helicopter gunships and fighter jets that have bombarded nearby villages.

"All planes that bomb Idlib take off from that airport, and also, if we liberate it, the road between Aleppo and Idlib will be open and safe," a rebel from the Sukour al-Sham brigade said.

Further fighting was reported in the eastern, oil-

A soldier watches over seized packages of marijuana during a presentation of the 2nd military zone achievements to the media in Tijuana, Mexico, on 3 Nov, 2012. Mexican Army seized over 2 tons of marijuana during a security operation held on Friday.—XINHUA

Train collision kills 10, injures four in DR Congo **Congo**

KINSHASA, 4 Nov — At least 10 people were killed and four others injured in a head-on collision between the two trains on Saturday in the southwest of the Democratic Republic

of Congo (DR Congo), according to the Commercial Society of Transport and Ports (SCTP).

The two trains coming respectively from the capital Kinshasa and from Matadi, the capital of Bas-Congo Province collided at the section of Songololo, not far from Matadi.

The cause of the accident remains unknown, while massive damage was reported by the SCTP.

Built from 1890 to 1898 between the port of Matadi and Kinshasa, the 365-km railway line has become dilapidated.

Railway accidents are frequently reported in the vast Central African country because of the ageing of locomotives and railway networks left over from the colonial times. There has been rarely maintenance work ever since the country won independence in 1960.

Reuters

Xinhua

US farms need recharged soil moisture after drought

Science

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov — Drought-struck areas of the US Plains winter wheat belt need a deluge of rain and snow this winter to fully recharge parched farmland, an unlikely scenario that means wheat, corn and soybean crops could face a rough new season. While the worst drought in roughly half a century is slowly loosening its grip on the United States, meteorologists and agronomists warn that the threat has not passed.

Wheat farmers now sowing their last winter seeds,

and corn and soybean growers making planting plans for spring, are haunted by the worrisome fact that parts of Nebraska, Kansas and other key agricultural states have the lowest levels of moisture in years. Indeed, Nebraska recorded the driest June, July and August on record and the third-driest September ever, according to preliminary data from the National Climatic Data Centre.

Some areas would need 5 to 6 feet of snow on top of more than 15 inches of rainfall over the next few

months just to get back to normal, say climate experts. It typically takes about 10 inches or more of snow to make one inch of water. That would not mark record amounts of precipitation, but would provide much more than normal — and more than can easily be dealt with.

"It's an insane amount of snowfall that would be required... among the top five snowfalls in history," said Al Dutcher, a climatologist with the National Drought Mitigation Centre in Nebraska. — Reuters

Mars rover still sniffing for elusive methane

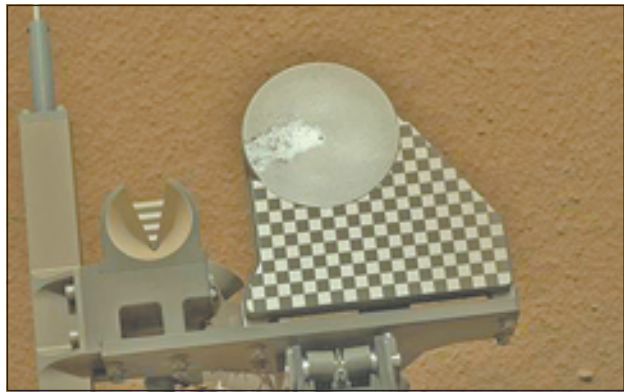
CAPE CANAVERAL, 4 Nov — Initial analysis of the atmosphere of Mars from NASA's rover Curiosity has shown no sign of methane, a gas detected previously by remote sensors, researchers said on Friday. On Earth, more than 90 percent of the methane in the atmosphere

results from living organisms and its presence in the Martian atmosphere, first detected in 2003, raised the prospect of microbial life on the planet. Although no methane was detected during Curiosity's first detailed atmospheric analysis, scientists working under the auspices of the US

space agency plan to keep looking.

"The search goes on," Curiosity scientist Paul Mahaffy, from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland, told reporters on Friday. In addition to chemically analyzing soil and rocks, Curiosity is equipped to sample and study gases in the planet's thin atmosphere. The rover's onboard laboratory looked for methane in concentrations as small as five parts per billion. Scientists so far have no explanation as to why Curiosity has found no methane, when orbiting probes and ground-based telescopes have previously found evidence of the gas on Mars.

As well as being produced by living organisms, methane is also generated by geological activity. Methane



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

Last NASA space shuttle becomes museum piece

CAPE CANAVERAL, 4 Nov — NASA's last space shuttle rolled out of a hangar in Florida on Friday and traveled down the road to the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex to begin a new life as a museum piece. *Atlantis* is the third and final shuttle to be retired and turned over for public display after the end of the 30-year-old shuttle programme last year.

"Don't cry because it's over; smile because we had it," Patty Stratton, a manager with shuttle contractor United Space Alliance, told workers gathered before dawn outside the Kennedy Space Centre's Vehicle Assembly Building.

The 1960s-era Apollo complex, later used to pair shuttles with booster rockets and fuel tanks for flight, now stands empty. Kennedy Space Centre is in the midst of a transition to support a planned heavy-lift rocket and

deep space capsule able to fly astronauts to destinations beyond the International Space Station's 250-mile orbit. NASA intends to turn over station crew ferry flights to private companies. For now, Russia has the only transportation system to fly astronauts to the station, a service that costs the United States more than \$60 million

per seat.

Mounted on top of a 76-wheel flatbed trailer, *Atlantis* began its final journey before dawn on a clear and cool autumn day at the seaside Florida spaceport.

It made several stops along the 10-mile (16-km) route before reaching the Kennedy Space Centre



The space shuttle *Atlantis* rolls down Kennedy Parkway on its way to its new home at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Cape Canaveral, Florida in this handout photo supplied by NASA on 2 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS



Audience queue up to enter the Auditorium of the 18th Tous Ecrans (all screens) International Fiction Festival in Geneva, Switzerland, on 2 Nov, 2012. The festival selects fictions in all forms and on all media ranging from film to television to video game consoles, not to mention cell phones and the web. — XINHUA

Technology

would not have to be released at Curiosity's landing site inside Gale Crater for the rover to detect it, according to atmospheric chemist Sushil Atreya of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. "If there is a source of methane elsewhere, it does not take very long for it to get distributed over the planet - about three months," Atreya said. "As we monitor (for) methane over time, we may be able to say more about the possibility about any sources in the Gale Crater region," he said. Measurements of other atmospheric gases have proven more fruitful. An analysis of carbon, argon and other isotopes, which are variations of particular chemical elements, indicates that Mars, as suspected, has lost significant amounts of its atmosphere to space over time. — Reuters

Pressure builds for better oil spill clean-up technology

LONDON, 4 Nov — With oil becoming scarcer and more expensive, the economics of the industry may finally tip in favour of one of the most neglected areas of its business — the technology for cleaning up oil spills.

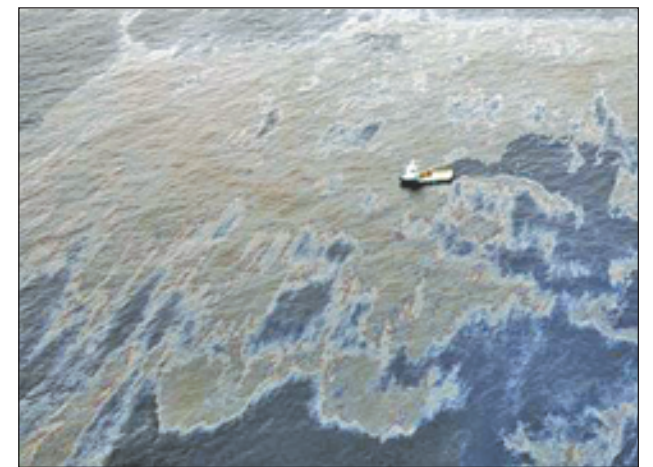
Despite efforts by scientists to find new and more effective ways to deal with spilt oil, there has been little fundamental change in the technology in the two decades since the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster that spilled 750,000 barrels of oil into Prince William Sound in Alaska.

But as oil companies push into the environmentally

pristine Arctic and deeper waters elsewhere, the pressure on them to demonstrate they can quickly mop up spilt oil will increase. Big spills like BP PLC's 2010 disaster in the Gulf of Mexico usually trigger a flurry of research, much like the acceleration in weapons technology in wartime, but history shows that industry and government enthusiasm quickly fades.

That loss of momentum could prove expensive. BP has already spent \$14 billion on clean-up operations, paid out over \$8 billion in claims and is offering a further \$7.8 billion in settlement to those affected by the disaster.

Reuters



An aerial view shows oil that seeped from a well operated by Chevron at Frade, on the waters in Campos Basin in Rio de Janeiro state on 18 Nov, 2011. — REUTERS

Science

Visitor Complex just after 6 pm EDT (2200 GMT). "It traveled a lot faster in its previous life," quipped former astronaut Chris Ferguson, who commanded the last shuttle flight aboard *Atlantis*. "I think that maybe a generation or two of pilots after me are going to look at the space shuttle and wonder what it was like to fly that." — Reuters

Russia launches two satellites into space

Science

MOSCOW, 4 Nov — A Russian *Proton-M* rocket carrying two telecommunications satellites blasted off from the Baikonur space centre in Kazakhstan early Saturday, federal space agency Roscosmos said.

The launch was carried out at designated time and successful, a Roscosmos spokesman said.

Nine minutes after the launch, at 01:13 Moscow time (2113 GMT Friday),

the Briz-M booster separated from the rocket to send the two satellites into their orbits, Roscosmos said.

The separation of the *Yamal-300K* satellite from the Briz booster was conducted at 10:19 Moscow time (0619 GMT), while the separation of the *Luch 5B* satellite was performed at 10:33 Moscow time (0633 GMT), according to Roscosmos.

Both *Yamal* and *Luch*

were built by Reshetnev space company. The *Yamal-300K* telesat will join the network of Russian energy giant Gazprom's telecoms branch Gazprom Space Systems (GSS). It covers a service zone of 95 percent of Russia's territory. *Luch 5B* was expected to relay data from space vehicles and track orbits of various space objects, according to its designer.

Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Business

GM badly lags Ford in Europe restructuring



A Ford Fiesta vehicle sits for sale on a dealership lot in Encinitas, California on 25 July, 2011.— REUTERS

PARIS/DETROIT, 4 Nov — Ford Motor Co, which clung to the road with a timely swerve before the 2009 crisis that bankrupted General Motors Co, may now be pulling a similar stunt in Europe. The Dearborn, Michigan-based automaker is scrapping three European plants and thousands of jobs while its rival appears to be stuck on the starting grid. The speed of Ford's restructuring plan — and the comparatively slow pace of GM's — has become more important during a protracted slump in Europe's

auto market, with sales down another 7.2 percent so far this year.

Both companies unveiled hefty third-quarter losses in the region and warned they could lose a combined \$6 billion or more in Europe in 2012-13. The bad news weighs heavily on GM's troubled Opel unit, which has lost billions of dollars over the past decade, has a long history of ill will with its labour unions, has seen its products and brand image pummeled in the media and has shown the door to all but a handful of its top executives. More than anything, however, the cost of making cars is simply too high, with too many workers still on the payroll given sagging demand in most of western Europe.

Opel is lagging Ford in Europe because it "totally missed the golden opportunity" to make deeper cuts during the last crisis, said Mirko Mikelic, portfolio manager at Fifth Third Bank, who oversees assets including GM preferred shares and Ford debt. "Most investors would like to see some capacity cuts" at GM, he said. "It doesn't necessarily have to be the same timing as Ford ... but we hope GM will take similar steps." The euro zone crisis has exacerbated the auto sector's overcapacity, locking companies into paying high fixed costs to build fewer vehicles. GM and Ford plants in Europe operate at less than 75 percent of installed capacity, analysts say.—Reuters

Chicago grains down with outside market negativity, demand issues **Business**

CHICAGO, 4 Nov — Chicago corn, wheat and soybean futures all fell in trading on Friday, as a negative outside market and concern over US export sales put pressure on agricultural commodities. The most active corn contract for December delivery fell 11.5 cents, or 1.53 percent, to close at 7.395 dollars per bushel. December wheat declined four cents, or 0.46 percent, to settle at 8.645 dollars per bushel. January soybeans sank 33.25 cents, or 2.13 percent, to close at 15.2675 dollars per bushel.

Agricultural commodities all saw moderate to sharp losses on the session, as the grains fell in line with the majority of commodities on Friday. Gold and crude oil each posted losses of more than two percent, with steep declines also seen in the US stock market. Additionally, employment data from the US Department of Labour showing the US added more jobs than had been expected led to a sharp rise in the dollar, which further pressured the grains. A stronger greenback is a negative force for commodities, as it makes them more expensive to holders of other currencies.

—Reuters

Xinhua

Canada job market stalls in October after hefty gains

Market

OTTAWA, 4 Nov — Canadian job growth stalled in October after two months of strong hiring, Statistics Canada data showed on Friday, confirming expectations employment gains would ease to reflect sluggish economic growth. The economy added 1,800 jobs in the month, even lower than the small increase of 5,000 jobs forecast in a Reuters poll, while the unemployment rate held steady at 7.4 percent.

Economists have argued that with the economy expanding at a rate of about 2 percent, employment growth of the magnitude seen in the previous two months was not sustainable. "It's not too surprising to find the Canadian labour market take a bit of a breather. The underlying details are still fairly positive," said David Tulk, chief Canada macro strategist at TD Securities. "It's consistent with growth slowing into the third quarter and then recovering slowly thereafter." The Bank of Canada last week slashed its forecast for third-quarter growth on an annualized basis to 1 percent from 2 percent, citing a greater degree of slack in the economy.—Reuters



A man looks at a job board posted at a job fair in Toronto, on 1 April, 2009.— REUTERS

Kraft Foods approves \$650 million restructuring plan

Business

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov — Kraft Foods Group Inc (KRFT.O), which sells Planters peanuts, Oscar Mayer lunch meat and Velveeta cheese, said it approved a \$650 million restructuring plan related to its spin-off from Kraft Foods Inc in October

The company said the restructuring cost involves severance related to the spin-off, asset disposals and other one-time expenses.

Kraft Foods Group

said about half of the total restructuring cost is expected to result in cash expenditures. In addition to the restructuring, the company also approved related capital expenditures of \$200 million. It expects to complete the restructuring by the end of 2014.

Kraft Foods Inc spun off its North American grocery business on 1 October as Kraft Foods Group. Mondelez International Inc (MDLZ.O), whose brands include Oreo cookies, Cadbury chocolate



Kraft macaroni and cheese products are seen on the shelf at a grocery store in Washington, on 3 May, 2012.— REUTERS

and Trident gum, is the name of what remains from Kraft Foods Inc after the spinoff.—Reuters

Sharp's stock falls, credit downgraded as worries mount

Business

TOKYO/HONG KONG, 4 Nov — Shares of Japan's Sharp Corp fell and Fitch Ratings downgraded its debt to junk status on Friday, a day after it warned of a \$5.6 billion net loss for the year and said it might not be able to survive on its own. Sharp's stock fell 2.4 percent to 165 yen and has lost three-quarters of its value since the start of the year, the worst performer among 2,200 Asian large

and midcap stocks, Thomson Reuters data shows.

Shares of rival Sony Corp rose, however, and Panasonic Corp's steadied after a slide to their lowest in more than 30 years, as investors look for signs that Japan's sprawling tech firms will finally take the tough steps needed to grapple with more flexible and better-funded foreign rivals. "Sharp and Panasonic look miserable," said Yasuo Sakuma, portfolio manager at Bayview Asset

Management." Investors are hesitant to buy them even though their share prices look relatively cheap. Nobody can say all the bad news has been discounted."

Fitch Ratings downgraded Sharp's credit rating by six notches to B-minus, following cuts by Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's late last summer. Fitch said it may cut the rating further, citing looming debt maturities, its limited access to capital

markets and the struggle it faces turning its business around.

Sharp's shares remained above a more than three-decade low of 142 yen hit last month, buoyed in part by hopes it can forge an alliance with a high-tech company interested in its display technology, but traders also noted it had become very expensive and difficult for short-sellers to borrow more shares to sell.

—Reuters

Confident beginning paves way for happy marriage **Health**

VANCOUVER, 4 Nov — Couples who were more confident when starting their marriage were more likely to spend time together, thereby showing more satisfaction in their relationship three years later, a new study showed.

The study, published recently in the journal *Family Process*, used a community-based sample of 610 newly married heterosexual couples to examine the relationship between marital confidence,

time spent together, and marital satisfaction over about three years.

It showed that those who were most confident at the outset of matrimony were still showing their happiness by sticking together as a couple long after the honeymoon was over.

"These couples were spending time together, dining out, taking part in activities together, sharing meaningful conversation and physical

expressions of affection," said co-author Matthew Johnson, a researcher in romantic relationships in University of Alberta, Canada.

"Those who are more confident in getting married are willing to invest in their relationships," Johnson added. Johnson suggested that couples about to tie the knot should not ignore any nagging doubts about getting married, as it would make a difference in their future marriage.

"It is tempting to push those concerns down and just go with the flow," he said, "but couples need to remember, the doubts you are having are there for a reason and dealing with them will be beneficial." Premarital counselling is a good opportunity for couples to talk openly and honestly about their concerns, and about their confidence in being able to meet future challenges, Johnson said.

Xinhua



A man walks past logos of Japan's technology firms Hitachi Ltd, Toshiba Corp, Sony Corp, Panasonic Corp and Sharp Corp at the Akihabara electronics store district in Tokyo on 17 April, 2012.— REUTERS

MOFA donates furniture, stationery to monastic education school

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs donated school furniture and stationery to No (6) Monastic Education School of Yadana Hman Monastery in Pinyinmana on 2 November.

Patron of Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the ministry wife of the Union minister Daw Lin Lin Tin and party presented furniture and stationery at the ceremony.

MNA



Thriving winter sugarcane plantations in Bago

YANGON, 4 Nov — It is leant that Yangon Region Cooperative Society is achieving success in cultivation of sugarcane, an industrial crop.

Chairman of the society U Myint Naing said it was allowed to put sugar cane on the area

of 180 acres for 30-year term. The produce of 100-acre sugarcane plantation on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway in Paukaung village-tract in Yedashe Township of Bago Region would be transported to No (6) Sugar Mill. Altogether K 95.84, 283, Z 71.40

and Phil varieties were grown in the plantation. Of already-allowed 180 acres, sugarcane plants were put into 100 acres and the remaining 80 acres are under land preparation.

As an attempt to take part in rural region development and poverty alleviation scheme of the government, Yangon Region Cooperatives Society established 100-acre sugarcane plantation that can create jobs for local people. With the aim of producing more sugar for public consumption, the society will transport 2500 tons of sugarcane to the mills. — *Kyemon*



Tourists throng Pakokku, Pakhangyi, Bawditahtaung, Powintaung Regions

MAGWAY, 4 Nov — Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku), Thihoshin Buddha Image, Shweku Buddha Image (Tharhtokeyu stupa) and Shwekutanke in Pakokku, Magway Region, are thronged with globe trotters who are taking photographs.

Pakokku Myoma market is also on the list of tourist attraction. Tourists showed an interest in fruits stalls packed with local produce and trading of Thanakha, a well-known produce of Pakokku region.

They also visited cotton mills and footwear factories in Pakokku in order to get good documentary photos. Places of interest for

tourists who concluded their visit in Pakokku is Pakangyi in Yezagy Township where Sithushin Thayatkhan Buddha Image and Pakhan monastery are tourist attractions. Then they proceeded to Maualeywar village, Bawditahtaung, Mohnyin Thanbodhdae and Powintaung and

Shwebataung in Monywa Township.

Thanks to Ayeyawady river crossing bridge, locals enjoy better transportation and generate more incomes from sales of local-made cotton garments that can attract the interest of globe trotters.

Kyemon



Drive Safely

MTF tennis tourney on 9 Nov

YANGON, 4 Nov — Organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation, a tennis tournament-2012 will be held at Theinbyu Tennis Court, here, from 9 November to 15 December.

Dhaka International Trade Fair welcomes Myanmar businessmen

YANGON, 4 Nov — Arrangements are being made by the Ministry of Commerce of Bangladesh and Export Promotion Bureau for participation of Myanmar businessmen in the 18th Dhaka International Trade Fair- 2013 to be held in Dhaka in January 2013. For further information, those who want to take part in the fair surf the net at www.ditfepgovbd.gov.bd.

Kyemon

THAYET, 4 Nov — Fire broke out at manual oil block of Shwe Yarthi company in Padaukpin oilfield in Thayet Township in Thayet District in Magway Region on 2 November morning. The oil well caught fire when a worker drew the oil and made fraction with the pipe. Equipment from five oil wells, one engine, one oil pump, one motorbike, one bicycle, three staff quarters, and fifty barrels of crude oil were burnt in the fire.

Myanmar selected football team Head Coach leaves for Vietnam

YANGON, 4 Nov — A delegation led by Head Coach of Myanmar selected football team Pak Hsaung-hwa left here yesterday for Hanoi, Vietnam, to observe the play of Vietnamese team, Myanmar's arch-rival in

The tournament includes U-10 boys' and girls' events, U-12 boys' and girls' events, U-14 boys' and girls' single and double events. Those who want to take part in the tournament may register at

the office of Myanmar Tennis Federation on Theinbyu road during office hours not later than 8 November noon. The admission fee is K 1000 per head for local tennis players and US\$ 5 for foreigners.

Kyemon

China-ASEAN (Myanmar) Trade Fair in Yangon on 8 November

YANGON, 4 Nov — Organized by China Foreign Trade Guangzhou Exhibition General Corp and Export/Import Merchants Association of China, China-ASEAN (Myanmar) Trade Fair-1012 will be held under the arrangement of NMT Ltd and Myanmar-China Merchants Association at Tatmadaw Convention Hall, here, from 8 to 10 November.

Machinery, motorbikes,

home decorations, lighting, office stationery, kitchen utensils, furniture and foodstuff will be on display at the fair.

The Ministry of Commerce, Chinese Embassy in Myanmar and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will sponsor the fair.

Kyemon

Fire breaks out in oil drilling block



A total of 17 auxiliary fire brigade members put out the fire with two fire engines about one and a half after the outbreak. Thayet

Police Station filed a lawsuit against Aung Kyaw Moe, the reckless worker of the oil well.

Kyemon

the group of Suzuki Cup, in its friendly match against Malaysian football team.

The Myanmar head coach was accompanied by coaches U Tin Myint Aung and U Tun Tun Aung who will video the friendly match between Vietnam and Malaysia to be held at 7 pm local time on 3 November.

The Myanmar delegation has arranged to visit Thailand on 7 November to watch a friendly match between

Thailand and Malaysia. The group matches of SUZUKI Cup will be held on 24 November. Myanmar is one of the teams of Group (A) comprising Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines and Myanmar.

Before group matches of SUZUKI Cup, Myanmar selected football team will play against Okayama Club of Japan in Yangon on 15 and 17 November.

Kyemon

Multiplier course on farmland organized

YANGON, 4 Nov — A multiplier course on farmland law, law for management of vacant, virgin and fallow land and bylaws was conducted at the meeting hall in Pindaya Township of Danu Self-

Administered Zone. A total of 117 trainees comprising departmental personnel, ward administrators and clerks and staff from Settlement and Land Records Department took the course. — *Kyemon*

LOCAL NEWS

Newspapers available for locals in Myeik, Taunggyi, Sittway, Myinkakon, Bogale and Mawgyun

GANGAW, 4 Nov — With the aim of informing the people of changes and progress of the nation at present time, News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information sent newspapers to each and every corner of the nation by air, water and land.

Under the arrangement of the Ministry of Transport, Asian Wings, Air Mandalay and Air KBZ Airways gave a helping hand in carrying Myanmar Alinn colour newspapers to Myeik, Taunggyi and Sittway. As

Myanmar Alinn newspaper has a daily distribution of 2000 in Sittway and 1700 in Myeik, newspapers are being transported to there by air.

As Myanmar Alinn newspapers has a daily circulation of 3200 in Taunggyi newspapers are to be sent to Heho first by air, and thence to Taunggyi by Shwe Taungban van cars.

With the help of Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun Township Administration Departments and Mawgyun ship owners association,

locals in Myinkakon, Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun Townships can read Myanmar Alinn, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar dailies during the day. Besides, Shwe Pyi Tan hovercraft transports dailies to designated places free of charge.

Therefore, local people enjoy an opportunity of reading daily newspapers starting from 4 October.

It is learnt that people are happy to read the newspapers in colour during the day.

Myanmar Alinn



Regional development tasks gear up in Leiktho, Thandaunggyi and Thandaung

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — An opening of new school building for Basic Education High School in Leiktho of Thandaunggyi Township took place at the school on 27 October.

Officials cut the ribbon to open the new school

building which was built with the contribution of K 143 million of the State. Officials provided funds for construction of roads, offices, hospital and basic education high school and presented there sets of SKY NET, one set of computer,

four solar panels and one set of TV to responsible persons.

Road works are being carried out for widening of the road section between mile post Nos (28/4) and (28/5) on Leiktho-Thandaung road section. Officials presented two sets of SKY NET, one set of TV and cash assistance for People's Hospitals and BEHSs in Thandaunggyi and Thandaung.

MNA

Coupon for K 5000 handsets leads to a clash

YANGON, 4 Nov — A clash broke out over the way of distributing coupons between staff and an enthusiastic crowd at a mobile shop on Latha Street, here, yesterday. Recent news reports in journals and newspapers about handsets for only 5000 kyats had led to a stampede to be gathered round the mobile shop. A furious mob was completely out of control while coupons were being distributed to the rowdy crowd in front of the

shop. Members of police force managed to control the situation and the crowd

dispersed. Branches in other townships had faced similar problems.

Kyemon



Public service book corners arrives within the reach of the people

YANGON, 4 Nov — Today is Information Age, Knowledge Age. With the aim of introducing a way for promotion of reading habit among the public, arrangements are being made by Information and Public Relations of the Ministry of Information for opening of book corners at busy and bustling places like bus-stops, ports, stations and airports.

A book corner was opened at area-2 of domestic departure at Yangon airport on 3 November 2012.

As an attempt to stand as a public service media, the purpose of opening book corners at the public place is to provide the people with information. Public service



book corners arrive within the reach of the people.

Daily newspapers, books and journals as well as comics and children stories are available at the book corners, and people will be able to enjoy reading free of charge. The first book corner was opened

at Yangon railway station on 1 November. The first book corner was crowded with about 200 readers on its very first day. It is learnt that public service book corners will be opened soon in major cities of other regions and states.

Myanmar Alinn

Common hovercraft charges set

MONYWA, 4 Nov — Hovercraft liners in Chindwin river agreed to set the same charge for their routes at the meeting in Monywa in the last week of October.

Hovercraft liners association is formed with three liners in the river based in Monywa.

The business made less profit as the rivaling hovercraft liners contested to attract passengers with lesser fare charges.

The hovercrafts ply between Monywa and Homalin.—*Myanmar Alinn*

Tennis players in intensive training for int'l tournaments, XXVII SEA Games

YANGON, 4 Nov — Myanmar tennis players are in intensive training for international tennis tournaments in 2012 and XXVII SEA Games at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

Myanmar selected tennis players are Aung Kyaw Naing, Win Naing Oo, Thanda Aung, May Thi Tun, Zaw San Oo, Aung Myo Thant, Hein Hla Htoo, Phyo Thu Lwin, Myat Noe Aung, Lwin Moe, Aung Thaw Khant, Win Thu

Demand rising for tablets with sim slots

YANGON, 4 Nov — Tablets with Sim card slot are in quick sale, according to market sources.

Samsung, Lenovo, HTC tablets are holding large market share some of which are distributed among other

Chinese brands. "We sell tablets with GSM Sim card slot and others. Prices vary. The number of internet users on tablets rather than handsets is increasing," according to a mobile shop.

Myanmar Alinn

Books donated to Myanmar Alinn daily



YANGON, 4 Nov — Publishing houses donated books and cash to library of arts and cultural team of Myanmar Alinn Daily on 31 October.

U Aung Khaing Myint and U Naing Naing Wai of Mizzima Publishing House donated 66 publications and author U Hla Toe (Toe Htet)

of Yan Aung Publishing House, 46 publications through the editorial board of the state-run daily.

Letmoeswe Publishing House donated two magazines each month to the library opened for reporters and staff of the newspaper house.

Nyi Nyi Thabye

Khant, Kaung Htet San, Aung Thet Oo, Myo Min Aung, Zwe Sit Naing, Aye Ei Ei Ko, Khin Nanda Zaw, Khin Khin Than and Aye Wutyi.

Arrangements are

being made by Myanmar Tennis Federation for sending Myanmar selected tennis players to take part in international tennis tournament.

Myanmar Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 5 November, 2012

Special economic zones

In fact, special economic zones serve as the unique attraction for foreign direct investment we need for our national industrialization project. One of the basic factors for industrialization is the effective use of natural resources and favourable land and climate.

But it is important that such special economic zones should not pose a threat to the interests of our own national people, national image, sovereignty of the State and ecological balance.

So the departments concerned are in the mission of taking preventive measures against adverse environmental impacts, social and economic problems within the project areas, and also finding means for addressing other issues caused by projects such as the relocation of villages, reparation plans for displaced people, land utilization and transportation. Moreover, small-scale industrial establishments are being set up, new homes are being built and seedlings and bio-fertilizer are being distributed for local people and displaced villagers.

So we need to implement such projects in line with the existing laws and international procedures so that we may have special economic zones of global standard. Besides, they can invite large amounts of foreign investment and help our products reach global markets more easily.

Here, the role of regional authorities is important as they in cooperation with social organizations can convince the local people that environmental impact and social impact are taken into consideration in implementing special economic zones, which are aimed for regional development. In this way the projects will win public trust and cooperation.

Anyhow, like in many other countries these special economic zones on completion will bring much more benefits than harm as they create jobs, provide better education and health care for the locals, and bring brighter prospects for higher living standards.



NATIONAL

Ambassadors visit riot-torn areas in Rakhine

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay vowed to protect lives and properties of the citizens, effectively deterring extreme and aggressive actions of the two societies.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay together with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell, British Ambassador Mr Andrew Heyn, Australian Ambassador Ms Bronte Nadine Moules and departmental heads traveled to villages in Maungtau to inspect progress in reconstruction tasks yesterday.

The Border Affairs Ministry has so far reconstructed 87 houses in Shweyin Aye Village. They enquired after villagers there and fulfilled the requirements. The ambassadors put questions to families of Rakhine and Dainek national races about the communal strife.

The Union minister and ambassadors looked round reconstructed houses in Mawyawady Village and enquired after the villagers. Responsible persons explained reconstruction of houses by BAJ under the arrangement of UNHCR. The Union minister called for quick start and same quality like the previous houses.

The Union minister and party, and ambassadors held



Lt-Gen Thein Htay and party meet locals on inspection tour of Maungtau Township.—MNA

talks with delegated leaders of the two antagonistic societies at Rakhine State government office in Sittway.

U Shwe Ba Thein, a senior citizen from Sittway, disclosed that the two societies reside together for ages. It would be required to have sympathy and control hatred and greed for peace and stability of the state. He requested measures for guaranteeing no further outbreak of such conflict.

The British Ambassador said Britain is preparing to render humanitarian assistance to the conflict areas. He thanked for allowing observation during their tour. He stressed the need for tightening

security, citing the specific geographical features of the region in spite of increased security measures recently. Kyauktaw, Pauktaw, Kyaukpyu, Yathedaung townships are in need of considerable help, pointed out the ambassador, promising to take prompt actions for international assistance.

It is required to take legal actions against offenders as quickly as possible, concluded the ambassador.

The Union minister stressed the need to find out the root cause of the incident, saying that the majority of the people who desire peace face hard time due to the conflict. The State has announced legal actions against the

offenders and manipulators behind the scenes. He added that the State had to allow political activities to some extent in compliance with democratic practice.

The Rakhine State chief minister said adequate security forces have been deployed to conflict areas to restore tranquility and the rule of law.

He called for suggestions to ensure social harmony between the two societies. He concluded that job opportunities for youth in parallel with loan, investment and subsidies to the region for economic development would bring about regional stability and greater progress.

MNA



An aerial view of reconstructed houses in Mawyawady village.—MNA

ARTICLE

“RETIREMENT”

“Retirement” is the last stage in the lifelong career for the civil employee in the service of the Government. It is a memorable landmark and the exit point of tenure extending 40 years of prime work life. The age of retirement or superannuation is normally fixed by law in many countries taking into consideration the geography, climatic condition, general life expectancy of the population, economic and social factors etc. An ILO study found the variation of retirement age from 55 to 65 with few Scandinavian countries extending beyond. Sixty is found to be the general norm. Now with improved health and longevity of working population the age of retirement has been realigned to take into consideration the fitness and efficiency of the oldies to reemploy them or make good use of their experience and expertise for mutual benefit.

The existing regulation in force governing the conditions of civil service, from recruitment to retirement in Myanmar is called Fundamental Rules or FR. The Section on retirement is stipulated in Rule 56 (a) as follows:

“Except as otherwise provided in the public interest for particular services or posts, the date of compulsory retirement of a government is the date on which he attains the age of 60 years...”

Thus for a public servant retirement is no strange phenomenon. It is a change that comes to every employee in turn and

there is no turning back. It is a uniform standard rule, and all must be governed by that rule. It has nothing to do with physical fitness, efficiency or experience of a particular individual, or premature senility for those who grow old before their time’s up. In fact at sixty some retirees are not only fit and healthy but at the very peak of efficiency experience and valued expertise. Superficially it would seem wrong to deprive a government enterprise of the priceless service of such seasoned veterans. Offsetting such paragons of excellence there are persons of sixty or even less who have slowed down so progressively that they can no longer pull their weight. Through seniority of service they may have managed to reach the top echelons. But they do no more good than to hinder the progress of work and block the advancement of younger men. The youngsters think all older men at the top ought to quit, the quicker the better. The oldies approaching retirement at sixty assume that they are still fit and indispensable and wish to hang on as long as possible. There lies the rationale for a single standard which needs to be enforced without fear or favour.

What follows a person at sixty after retirement is a complete transformation physically, mentally and psychologically. As the day begins, he comes to be keenly aware of the change that has come into his lifestyle, which must be understood by all concerned in the immediate family: his wife and children. On his part too he must learn to see life in a new perspective, cultivate a positive outlook, and not be demoralized and self-defeating. **In effect,**

retirement may open up the most richly rewarding experience of the entire career of the civil servant. He may sense the new freedom. He will no longer be bossed around. The old obligations no longer fetter him. He may now seek out new challenges which have long been in his mind but has to be postponed due to bonds and obligations of service. He can now select from his deferred agenda the activities which thrill him most, set his own tempo and

rhythm in doing them. He can alternate at will activities with rest and relaxation. He can work part time or full time as he pleases. When he plans for a vacation he no longer needs to justify his wife and family that his boss cannot spare him. He is now his own master.

Our country has been undergoing radical reform towards open economy, rule of law, representation of the people through the electoral process, all vestiges of democracy.

There is high expectation of change in all sectors of the economic and social spectrum. New private banks are opened, new economic and commercial enterprises jostled in the highly competitive market, new education institutions to educate and train the rising generation of youths towards their aspiration to meet the challenges of the ever changing demands are also highly competitive to lure the prospective students.

Thus the need for trained, skilled and experienced manpower ready for use, become most essential. Here the retirees are most sought by the newly formed institutions, where their

services are most valuable. They can provide much needed skills, proven experiences to the jobs at hand. They may be slower and less active than the younger generation but more reasoned and thorough to provide an equitable balance in planning and decision-making. And they can train the upcoming generation in the process of management, administration and leadership for most needed continuity and development. This era is a real bonanza for the retirees who can really take advantage of the good

fortune.

When he takes up a new job which most fits his credentials, expertise and experience, he will find with joy that he earns more after retirement. While in service he knew that he could earn more outside, but long years of service with assured pension benefits, though a pittance in my days are hard to forgo. Now he can smile each month at the prospect of a larger pay cheque. (Fortunately from 1st July 2012 the pension benefits has been readjusted with the present pay scale of active service personnel, much to the joy and relief of the living, senile pensioners who had survived for so long with so little.)

If he had established a fairly comfortable way of living with no urgency to seek another job to supplement his pension, savings, and support from his understanding children, he can now contribute with sheer joy the selfless social service and derive satisfaction from such philanthropic works. Every level of society is in dire need of men who will dedicate themselves to public weal. Somewhere

there is an assignment suited to every skill, an unresolved problem that can be mitigated by the very specific type of ability which the retiree had many times displayed in the call of duty before.

If all along his retired life he had been overflowing with enthusiasm for ideals outside the routine of money-making, he will go on as long as he lives, growing in usefulness to the world around him.

The physical and intellectual activities thus generated will actually prolong his lifespan and deepen his satisfaction for his humanitarian endeavours. Many retirees who have taken up sports of one form or the other like golf, will find more time and pleasure to enjoy the game and the community of friends.

Many oldies of the same service or old university mates now use to meet periodically at arranged breakfast parties, to talk freely about the old days of mirth and hilarity. All feel rejuvenated and fresh enough to continue living, and render selfless service for the voluntary cause as they wait eagerly for another meet which they never miss.

For those who seek inner peace of mind, this is the most propitious moment to cultivate purity of mind to perfection. New avenues of learning are now open to him where he can pursue with contemplation and mindful concentration.

He can also practise meditation. There is an inner glow, spiritual vibration and enlightenment. With children all grown up, settled and no need to worry about, he can now opt for life of a recluse, detached from worldly pleasures.

Or he can enter a meditation centre to a life of peace and serenity. Such inner wisdom is reflected in

his unruffled visage. Gone are the worries, tension, humiliation, subjugation of carnal desires and attachments. Instead he can visibly sense with pleasure the pristine aura and acme of excellence and perfection.

However there are certain segments of people who are not psychologically prepared to face the inevitability of retirement. He has no dreams of doing anything, no motivation that sparks his imagination, and sadly enough nothing to arouse his creative powers. All along his career his best efforts rise no higher than daily shuffling his papers on his desk. He may not have taken some kind of sports and hobby for relaxation, nor participate in some kind of social work. Such kind of man will surely need great effort to adjust to a life of forced idleness.

In essence one must see things in their proper perspectives with positive attitude. In that light life is a challenge, not a curse; a privilege, not a negation; a social opening, not isolation. So let us make our post-sixty retirement life meaningful, worthwhile and rewarding. I believe that if you have the will and cultivate the right frame of mind, you will surely be on the right track to an exciting venture.

It is now 20 years since the 1930s generation who entered government service in their prime of life has retired around 1990s.

A few like the author still contribute to the social and humanitarian causes. Some still write crystallized gems of writing for the coming generations to read enjoy and emulate; reminiscences of the past and the means to make best use of time. Surprisingly it may still be relevant today, don’t you think?

by BA THAN

Yangon Region hockey team emerges champion

YANGON, 4 Nov— Jointly organized by the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Hockey Federation, the final match of 4th Inter-Region/State Men’s Hockey Tournament was held at Theinbyu Artificial Turf here this morning, attended by Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan. The Union Minister presented championship trophy and duplicated shield

to first prize winner Yangon Region team.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Sports Minister U Thaung Htaik, Director-General U Myo Hlaing of Sports and Physical Education Department, President of Myanmar Hockey Federation and Member of Yangon City Development Committee U Htin Zaw Win and executives and sport



enthusiasts. At the final match, Yangon Region team beat Mon State team 3-0 and the

prize presentation ceremony followed. Officials awarded respective prize winners.

NLM

66-year old man to stage solo protest in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 4 Nov— An ex-government employee got the permission from the local authorities on 31 October to stage a solo protest in Mohnyin, Kachin State. U Hla Thaung, 66, who got fired from his job as he was working for the Zeyawady Distillery, will stage the solo protest from 9 to 10 am from the east bank of the Nanyin Creek to the Myoma Market on

11 November, holding a placard which reads “Solve the issue of the government employees who got fired from jobs due to 33 rules in 1991”. The head of Mohnyin Township Police Office has issued an order dated 31 October to allow his solo protest. He is living at No 103 in Namisu Ward in Mohnyin and his native town is Pyu Township, Bago Region.

NLM 001



Myanmar, Norway eye for promotion of ties

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg and party paid a call on Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann at Zabuthiri Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this morning.

The Speaker expressed his pleasure for the visit of the Norwegian PM, extending a warm welcome. He elaborated on ongoing political and

economic reforms of the government and frankly discussed promotion of ties and cooperation between the two countries with the Norwegian PM.

Also present at the call were the chairpersons of Hluttaw committees, some MPs, member of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Committee U Khin Soe, and personnel of Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg at Zabuthiri Hall in Hluttaw Complex.

MNA

Norway Embassy established in Yangon

YANGON, 4 Nov— Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg and wife met Chairperson of Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee and of National League for Democracy Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at her Nay Pyi Taw residence this morning. They then flew to Yangon at noon.

The Norwegian PM attended the opening of Norwegian embassy in Myanmar at No. 7 Pyithu Street in Mayangon Township. The prime minister said at the opening ceremony that Norwegian companies can now invest in Myanmar as the economic sanctions against

Myanmar have been lifted and Norway has the encouraging records of investment.

Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min said the friendship between Myanmar and Norway would flourish in all sectors and areas. The ceremony was attended by the Norwegian PM and wife, Union ministers U Aung Min, U Soe Thein, U Ohn Myint, U Than Htay and Dr Kan Zaw, departmental heads, ambassadors, diplomats and guests.

In the afternoon, the delegation led by the Norwegian PM and wife visited Myanmar Peace

Centre in Kamayut where they were welcomed by Union ministers U Aung Min, U Soe Thein, U Than Htay and Dr Kan Zaw, Yangon region ministers and members of Union-level peace-making committee.

The delegation viewed documentary photos displayed in the hall and

met the youths from each state.

Union minister U Aung Min presented the Norwegian PM a Myanmar map depicting the peace process.

The delegation then visited Shwedagon Pagoda and left Yangon in the evening.—MNA

Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Jens Stoltenberg and wife meets Chairperson of Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi of National League for Democracy.—MNA



Artificial legs donated

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win yesterday addressed the ceremony to donate artificial legs to persons with disabilities in Bago Town Hall.

The donation marked the second anniversary of the

Toungoo office of Myanmar Disabled Persons Association. Altogether 40 artificial legs were donated at the ceremony. The chief minister and the region government donated K 3 million to the association and officials donated cash.—MNA

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

WORLD

Colombian leader urges intensified battle against rebels

BOGOTA, 4 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



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

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

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

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.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

EU, Singapore expected to complete FTA before year-end

Singapore



EU office in Brussels, Belgium

SINGAPORE, 4 NOV— The head of the European Union (EU) delegation in Singapore has said that a free trade agreement (FTA) between the EU and Singapore is expected to be completed by the end of the year, Singapore broadcaster Channel NewsAsia reported on Saturday.

Marc Ungeheuer, head of the EU delegation in Singapore, said that the

FTA will have a chapter on investments. It makes sense to include investments in the FTA, given the safe investment environment in Singapore, Ungeheuer was quoted as saying. The EU is the largest source of foreign direct investments (FDI) in Singapore. Singapore accounts for 63.5 percent of FDI from the EU to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The FTA will make Singapore the first member state of the ASEAN to ink a FTA with the EU.

Ungeheuer described the deal as a building block for a wider FTA between ASEAN and the EU. Talks are already underway with Malaysia and Vietnam while negotiations with Thailand and Indonesia are expected to start next year.

“We hope, of course, that the 2015 ASEAN Economic Community will bring about a more coordinated and economically integrated ASEAN. Once ASEAN has further integrated and we already have the building blocks of the bilateral free trade agreements, the EU will be ready to negotiate a biregional free trade agreement,” he said.

Xinhua

Lao Deputy PM says China-Lao relations more crucial to development in new era

VIENTIANE, 4 NOV— Enhanced China-Lao relations in the new era will be of great significance for the development of both nations as well as the Asia-Pacific region, Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Thongloun Sisoulith said on Saturday.

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua before the Ninth Asia-Europe Meeting Summit (ASEM9) scheduled for 5-6 November, Sisoulith said that Laos has witnessed substantial progress in many aspects since the carrying out of agreements reached by Chinese and Lao leaders at a time when global environment continues to undergo complicated challenges.

“It’s even more crucial than ever for the two nations to have closer relations so as to contribute more to regional peace, stability and social advancement,” said the Lao deputy prime minister.

Sisoulith thanked China and other friendly countries for their support to Laos in the run-up to the summit, one of the biggest occasions in the history of the land-locked country.

“We are grateful for both financial and spiritual assistance extended by Chinese government and the Chinese people,” Sisoulith said.

He added that as the host country, Laos has been preparing for the event with utmost efforts to ensure the summit would bring about



Photo taken on 4 Nov, 2012 shows the indoor scene of the press center for the 9th Asia-Europe Meeting Summit (ASEM-9), in Vientiane, capital of Laos. The Press center went into operation on Sunday for more than 700 journalists from different countries.—XINHUA

tangible results.

The ASEM Summit, a key forum for dialogue between Asian and European countries, is held biennially with Asia and European countries to be the host alternately. Belgium hosted the Eighth ASEM Summit in 2010.

Under the theme “Friends for Peace, Partners for Prosperity”, the forthcoming Vientiane summit is considered an ideal opportunity for the under-

developed small nation to display to the world its progress in pursuing active development policies. It also is a chance for Laos to express its political intention and will for cooperation with Asian and European countries, according to the deputy prime minister.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) approved Laos’ entry into the organization on 26 Oct, 2012, fifteen years after the country submitted its initial

Police to raid Schindler over fatal elevator accident

Japan

KANAZAWA, 4 NOV— Police will soon raid the Tokyo headquarters of Schindler Elevator KK, the local arm of Swiss-based Schindler Holding Ltd, over a recent fatal accident in a central Japan prefecture, investigative sources said

on Sunday. The police suspect professional negligence resulting in death of a cleaner who became wedged between the floor of an ascending elevator and a doorway frame on Wednesday afternoon at a hotel in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, on the Sea of Japan

coast, the sources said.

The police already raided the Nagoya office of the Japan arm in the city of Nagoya and a maintenance firm in Kanazawa on suspicion of professional negligence over the accident.

Kyodo News

Laos greets Asian, European leaders by China-built “ASEM Villa”

LAOS

VIENTIANE, 4 NOV— “You should see when the sun comes down about an hour later, the view will be even more intoxicating,” said Hao Chengsong as he stood on the staircase of the “ASEM Villa”, pointing to its gigantic French window overlooking the Mekong River. The 1200-square-meter, two-floor villa is one of the 52 projects built by China CAMC Engineering Co, Ltd to accommodate Asian and European leaders and their entourage attending the upcoming Ninth Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit, slated for 5-6 November.

The riverside view has been made available for villas on the southern perimeter of the so-called “ASEM Villa”, which extends along a 1.6-km-long section of the

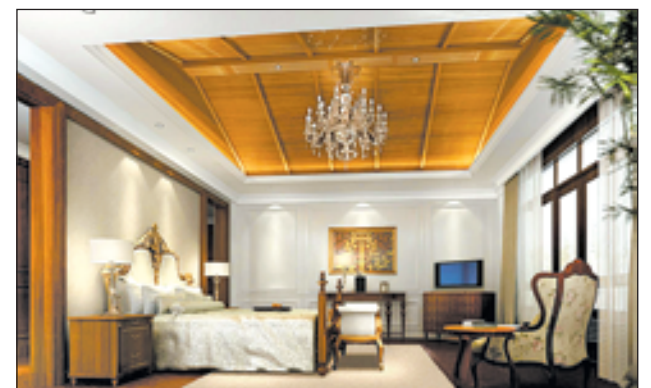
Mekong riverbank, said Hao, a CAMCE sales representative based in Vientiane.

Decorated with Lao handicrafts such as silk-woven draperies and steep-headed stamps which signify the possession of power, the villa’s spacious living room and the four bedrooms also showcase some delicately-framed pictures of local people and scenery.

“We display the award-winning photos in the villa

flags over the front door

Started last April and completed only a few days ago, the “ASEM Villa” project covers an area of 84,000 square metres and is worth around 100 million US dollars, according to Luo Yan, chairwoman and President of CAMCE, a major Chinese construction and engineering firm which has been operating in the Southeast Asian country for over a decade.



Bedroom of ASEM Villa.

to make it more like a sweet home and also to help the ASEM leaders see the real Laos,” he added.

The villas, categorized into three types based on their architectural styles — Lao, modern and subtropical — have been designated to ASEM members by hanging

It is the first phase of the “Vientiane New World” program, a Lao-Chinese joint venture to develop a large strip of commercial real estates alongside the Mekong riverbank in central Vientiane, covering a space of 42 hectares.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 1 Nov, 2012 shows late-season rice at Shagang Village of Jing’an County in Yichun, east China’s Jiangxi Province. Jiangxi’s grain output this year is estimated to exceed a record high of 20.75 billion kilograms.—XINHUA

‘Third force’ to aim for more than 100 seats in election

Japan


TOKYO, 4 NOV— Former Tokyo Gov. Shintaro Ishihara said on Sunday he will aim to grab more than 100 seats in the next general election if he forms a “third force” to challenge the ruling Democratic Party of Japan and main opposition Liberal Democratic Party.

During a TV appearance, Ishihara said, “Of course I would like to have more than 100 enter” the 480-seat lower house in the next election,

from a new party he is set to create by incorporating small opposition parties. Ishihara hopes to incorporate the Sunrise Party of Japan and is seeking also to join hands with the opposition Your Party and Osaka Mayor Toru Hashimoto’s Japan Restoration Party in the run-up to the House of Representatives election that must be held by next summer.

Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT

 **The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
Union Civil Service Board
Vacancy Announcement
Announcement No. 22/ 2012
8th Waxing of Thadingyut 1374 ME
(23 October 2012)

1. The Department of Labour under the Ministry of Labour has issued an announcement of vacancies for the following positions-

Position	Vacancy	Educational Qualification
Staff Officer	4	LLM
	4	M.A(English)
	4	M.C.Sc / M.C.Tech
	3	M.Econ(Stats:)
	4	B.E(Mechanical)/B.E(Electronics)

2. The applicants -
 (a) must be citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 (b) must not be over 35 years of age (40 years if service personnel) on 27 November 2012.
 (c) must be in good health ,must be physically fit and possess well intact limbs.

3. Applications forms are available at Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw or the respective offices of the Region and States Government and it must be submitted to the above mentioned offices in person or through the mail service not later than 27 November 2012. The applicant must specifically describe the desired exam center to sit for written examination either at Nay Pyi Taw or Region and States Government. Late submission of application will not be accepted.

4. With regards to filling in the application form, documents to be attached, mode of payment of Ks.500/ for examination fee, subjects to be studied for written examinations and personal interview, candidates applying for the vacant positions will have to follow the instructions manifested in the Guide Booklet published under Letter No. 950 / Selection (Main)/ 2012, dated 1 October 2012.

5. For service personnel, his or her original application altogether with the recommendation of the ministry concerned and a passport photo of the applicant must be sent to Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw through the Head of Department .Another application form together with an extra passport photo must be sent to the Union Civil Service Board or the respective offices of the Region and States Government by 27 November 2012.

6. Written examinations will be held in **Nay Pyi Taw, Region and States Government**. Candidates will be examined in Myanmar and General Knowledge examination papers on 9 February 2013 (Saturday) and English examination paper on 10 February 2013 (Sunday).

7. Identity cards for candidates sitting for the examination will be issued at Nay Pyi Taw and the respective offices of the Region and States Government on 7 February 2013.

8. For more information, applicants may contact Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board, Nay Pyi Taw (067 - 409052, 067 - 409430) or the respective offices of the Region and States Government in person or by phone.

9. This announcement and the guide booklet for applicants may be browsed on Websites: ucsb.imis.com.mm and www.ucsb.gov.mm.

 **The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
Union Civil Service Board
Vacancy Announcement
Announcement No. 23 / 2012
8th Waxing of Thadingyut 1374 ME
(23 October 2012)

1. The Road Transport Administration Department under the Ministry of Rail Transportation has issued an announcement of vacancies for the following position-

Position	Vacancy	Educational Qualification
Staff Officer	3	M . A (English)
Staff Officer(Computer)	3	M . C . Sc

2. The applicants -
 (a) must be citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 (b) must not be over 35 years of age (40 years if service personnel) on 27 November 2012.
 (c) must be in good health, must be physically fit and possess well intact limbs.

3. Applications forms are available at Office No.(17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw or the respective offices of the Region and States Government and it must be submitted to the above mentioned offices in person or through the mail service not later than 27 November 2012. The applicant must specifically describe the desired exam centre to sit for written examination either at Nay Pyi Taw or the Region and States Government. Late submission of application will not be accepted.

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At least 85,000 more people displaced within Mali than originally estimated

UN

UNITED NATIONS, 4 Nov—A UN spokesman said here on Friday that the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has revised the number of people internally displaced in Mali from the previously-estimated 118,795 to 203,845, an increase of at least 85,000 people.

The UNHCR said on Friday that “new data is showing a higher number of internally displaced people than previously reported in Mali” and that “at least 203,845 people are currently displaced,” Eduardo del Buey, the deputy UN spokesperson, told a daily news briefing.

The UNHCR’s revised figure “reflects in part better access to areas in the north of Mali, as well

as improved counting of internally displaced people in Bamako,” Mali’s capital, del Buey noted.

Over the past couple of months, the UN has reported a “disturbing rise” in Mali in extremism, prevalent human rights abuses and extreme poverty. There are also reports of prevalent smuggling of arms, drugs and human trafficking in the northern part of the West African country.

The figures released by the UNHCR are “indications of actual new displacement, with people reported to be fleeing because of general insecurity and a deteriorating human rights situation in the north of the country, fear of imminent military activity, and because of loss of livelihoods and limited



UN headquarter in New York

access to basic services,” the UN spokesman said. The United Nations has recently asked the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to produce a detailed plan for a possible military intervention in

northern Mali, where al-Qaeda-linked terrorists have become a dominant force since the 22 March military coup in the country.

“New refugee arrivals are also being seen in neighboring countries,” del Buey said.—Xinhua

Border agents in radio contact before fatal shooting

US

NACO, (Arizona), 4 Nov—A probe into the killing of a Border Patrol agent in an apparent “friendly fire” death has revealed he was in radio contact with other agents on the scene before the fatal shooting last month in southern Arizona, local media reported.

A report on Friday from the Cochise County Sheriff’s Office said agent Nicholas Ivie and two fellow agents involved in the pre-dawn incident were responding to a tripped sensor near the US-Mexico border, Phoenix television station ABC15 said on its website.

The sheriff’s report also said one of the two other agents, both of whom had approached the scene in darkness from the opposite direction as Ivie, told investigators she had observed

Ivie “signaling them with his flashlight.” Ivie, 30, ended up being shot to death in a burst of gunfire in the desert near Naco, Arizona, a spot well-known for drug- and human-trafficking.

A second agent was shot and wounded, while the third, who reported seeing Ivie’s flashlight beam, was unscathed. The information about the radio contact and other details of what transpired in the early morning hours of 2 October were brought to light in statements made to investigators by the uninjured female agent, the television station reported.

After joining up with the second agent by vehicle and proceeding together on foot, she saw muzzle flashes and gunfire as she walked up a trail, then took cover.—Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

New Jersey's own Springsteen and Bon Jovi sing for Sandy victims

NEW YORK, 4 Nov — New Jersey natives Bruce Springsteen and Jon Bon Jovi joined Staten Island-born Christina Aguilera and others on Friday in a televised benefit concert for victims of Sandy, the storm that killed more than 100 and devastated parts of the US Northeast. The commercial-free one-hour telecast, "Hurricane Sandy: Coming Together," included appearances by Sting, Billy Joel, Jimmy Fallon, Steven Tyler, Mary J Blige, Tina Fey, Jon Stewart, Whoopi

Goldberg, Kevin Bacon and Danny DeVito. The host was "Today" show co-anchor Matt Lauer, who said, "We haven't seen a storm like this in 100 years." The fundraiser, shown on NBC, opened with Aguilera saying: "I was born in Staten Island. Four days ago, Hurricane Sandy came through and devastated it." The New York City borough accounted for about half the city's 41 deaths from the storm. Aguilera, a judge on the

television singing competition "The Voice," vowed that "we will do whatever we can to help, we will not leave anyone behind," then performed "You Are What You Are (Beautiful)." Next up was Bon Jovi, who was seen in footage filmed this week after he rushed back from a British promotional tour to visit his hometown of Sayreville, New Jersey, to console residents and view the devastation. Bon Jovi sang "Who Says You Can't Go Home." Fey, an actress and comedian, implored viewers to donate at 1-800-HELPNOW and spread the message for donations via social media such as Twitter.

Donors can also text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 contribution. All proceeds were earmarked for the American Red Cross to benefit victims of Sandy and rebuilding efforts. The show was sprinkled with news footage of destruction in New York City and along the New Jersey coast, such as the ruins of the amusement pier familiar to viewers of "Jersey Shore." —Reuters



Musician Jon Bon Jovi performs during Hurricane Sandy: Coming Together, a Red Cross telethon on NBC to benefit victims of Hurricane Sandy, the storm that killed more than 100 and devastated parts of the US Northeast, in New York, on 2 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

Photo News



Singer Elleya Tao performs during the Press conference of her new album "Chemistry Love" in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, recently. XINHUA

"Hunger Games" sticks with director Lawrence for sequels

LOS ANGELES, 4 Nov — Francis Lawrence has signed on to direct the final two installments of the hit movie "The Hunger Games," movie studio Lionsgate said on Thursday. The announcement follows months of rumours that Lionsgate might go with a different director to helm the "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay," —the final part of the trilogy which will be split into two separate films.

The "I am Legend" director is currently filming the second film in the franchise, "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," slated to hit theaters in November 2013. "Mockingjay—Part 1" is scheduled for a November 2014 release with Part 2 coming a year later.

Gary Ross directed the



Director Francis Lawrence poses at the premiere of "I Am Legend" in London on 19 Dec, 2007. — REUTERS

first film in the blockbuster, which was released in March and has since grossed some \$670 million worldwide. Stars Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth have signed on for the final two films, the studio said in a statement.

The films are adapted from the best-selling young-adult novels from author Suzanne Collins.—PTI

Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan to inaugurate Kolkata film fest

KOLKATA, 4 Nov — As many as 189 films from 60 countries will be screened at the 18th Kolkata Film Festival, which will be inaugurated by Bollywood superstars Amitabh Bachchan and Shah Rukh Khan on 10 November.

Iranian film Nader and Simin: A separation directed by Azgarh Faradi will be the opening film of the eight-day festival ending on 17 November,

said the organisers at a media meet on Friday.

Tributes would be paid to first bollywood superstar Rajesh Khanna, who died earlier this year. Anand, the evergreen movie featuring Rajesh Khanna in the role of an ever-smiling cancer patient, would be screened.

Bengali movie star Koel Mullick will be the thali girl for the second consecutive year at the opening, said her father and KFF chairperson actor Ranjit Mullick.



Shah Rukh Khan

"The festival has a budget of Rs.3 crore," said state information and culture secretary Nandini Chakraborty.

However, she kept mum when asked about the contribution of the state government and the sponsors. Centenary tributes would be paid to Italian movie director Michelangelo Antonioni, 13 of whose creations—five features and eight documentaries - would be showcased at the festival,

the country's second oldest.

It is the second time that the regime of West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee is organizing the film fest.

Like last year, the festival will kick off with a gala inaugural ceremony at the Netaji Indoor Stadium.

The Calcutta-Kolkata section will showcase eight feature films giving a wider window to understand the city.

PTI

Klingon goes boldly beyond "Star Trek" into pop culture

LOS ANGELES, 4 Nov — Why learn French when you could learn Klingon? The language created more than 30 years ago for the "Star Trek" race of long-haired warriors has moved boldly into pop culture where few

other alien tongues have gone before.

With a new book about the classic Klingon starship, Bird-of-Prey, and a Klingon spoof of the "Gangnam Style" music video racking up millions of views on

YouTube, Klingons are showing a fun side that outstrips their Trekkies fan base. With their high-ridged foreheads, starships that boast cloaking devices and strict code of honour, Klingons are rivaling Mr Spock's Vulcans in the language and popularity stakes. "Klingons are these big, mean tough warrior guys, but they are also funny, so it is fun to behave like a Klingon," said Marc Okrand, who created the guttural language and compiled the first Klingon dictionary in 1985. Okrand, a Washington, DC-based linguist, also created the Vulcan and Romulan dialogue for the 2009 feature film "Star Trek." —Reuters

LOS ANGELES, 4 Nov — Former Two And a Half Men star Charlie Sheen was reportedly hospitalised because of a severe ear infection.

Due to his health problem, the 47-year-old actor missed work on the set of his new TV show Anger Management for two days, reported Ace Showbiz.

"Charlie flew to NYC and brought his children, Sam Sheen as well as Lola Sheen, to see their mother Denise Richards. He suffered from the ear infection after going back to Los Angeles the next day," a source said. The Scary Movie 4 actor has now recovered and

Charlie Sheen hospitalised due to ear infection



Charlie Sheen

returned to work for a table read with the rest of the Anger Management stars. The actor also experienced similar infection in December 2011 when he was in Las Vegas. According to some sources, the infection worsened

because he took a flight.

At the time, he was still a lead actor of Two and a Half Men and was unable to go to the set. Apart from the on-going Anger Management TV show, Sheen has several movie projects.—PTI



File photo of a Klingon mask used as a prop from the television series "Star Trek" sits on display during a preview of the auction "40 Years of Star Trek: The Collection" at Christie's auction house in New York on 29 Sept, 2006. REUTERS



Tong Jian and Pang Qing (L) of China compete during the pairs free skating programme at the Cup of China ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating in Shanghai, east China, on 3 Nov, 2012. Tong and Pang claimed the title with 188.82 points.

XINHUA

Murray ready for triumphant homecoming

LONDON, 4 Nov — When Andy Murray steps out on court to face Tomas Berdych in his first match at the ATP World Tour Finals on Monday the expectation he usually shoulders will weigh a little less. The season-ending event will be the London-based Scot's first tournament on home soil after he finally made his major breakthrough by winning the US Open in September, beating Novak Djokovic in an epic final.

The 25-year-old ended 76-years of British hurt by downing Djokovic at Flushing Meadows and he will be guaranteed a raptuous

reception at London's O2 Arena, the final stop on another year of dominance for the game's big guns.

Djokovic, guaranteed to end the year as world number one for the second time, has been drawn to face



Andy Murray of Britain hits a return to Poland's Jerzy Janowicz during the Paris Masters tennis tournament on 1 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

Tennis

Murray in Group A which also features dangerous Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga. With Rafa Nadal absent injured, Wimbledon champion Roger Federer heads Group B which also contains David Ferrer, Juan Martin del Potro and Janko Tipsarevic. All eyes will be on Murray though as he aims to complete a magnificent treble, having also taken Olympic gold in London.

"I'm sure it will (be a great reception)," Murray told reporters on Saturday after the draw. "I will have to wait and see what's it's like when it does happen. "It will obviously be nice." — Reuters

Allegri says Milan need a night like this

MILAN, 4 Nov — AC Milan head coach Massimiliano Allegri cut a relieved a figure and said his side "deserved a night like this" after their 5-1 hammering of Chievo at home on Saturday.

"The team played well from start to finish. Technically and physically we were in good shape and above all every player was at the disposal of the squad.

It's an important thing to choose the right Milan," he said.

"After a crisis period, we really needed a night like this and deserved it too. We still have to improve in some aspects, but we're



AC Milan head coach Massimiliano Allegri

on the right track to do something good in a season that did not start well. "So far we have been penalized by absences, though of course

I too made mistakes.

I also made them in the year we won the Scudetto," he added.

Xinhua

Soccer

Inter end Juve's unbeaten run at 49 matches

ROME, 4 Nov — Juventus's Serie A unbeaten run came to an end after 49 matches on Saturday when Diego Milito's double helped Inter Milan win 3-1 in a pulsating 'Derby of Italy' clash in Turin. The win leaves second-placed Inter one point behind champions and league leaders Juve and is a sign that Andrea Stramaccioni's side are genuine challengers for the title. "It hurts to lose, obviously it hurts, but it's right to give credit to Inter, who played in a very intelligent way, with a great will to win," said Juventus captain Gianluigi Buffon.

"I conceded three goals

without having all that much to do but that can happen against the players that Inter have, they're very good." Juve scored straight from the kick off when Kwadwo Asamoah latched onto Mirko Vucinic's through ball and scuffed his shot into the path of Arturo Vidal, who gleefully tapped home from the edge of the six yard box after 19 seconds. Television replays showed Asamoah was offside when he collected Vucinic's pass but the linesman's flag stayed down.

"We were caught napping for the first goal, even if it was offside, but after that we reacted and played brilliantly. We

deserved to win," Milito told Sky Sport Italia. "It was a really hard match. We knew that it would be like that, we were up against the current champions, a great team like Juventus." Juve could have doubled their lead after eight minutes when Claudio Marchisio met Andrea Pirlo's delightful through ball with a volley that Samir Handanovic did well to push wide. Inter must have expected a torrid evening but were unlucky not to level three minutes later when Rodrigo Palacio's header from Esteban Cambiasso's freekick was ruled out for offside.

Reuters

Emotional Janowicz polishes off Simon to reach Paris final

Paris Masters



Jerzy Janowicz of Poland returns the ball during his semi-final men's singles match against Gilles Simon of France at the Paris Masters tennis tournament on 3 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

PARIS, 4 Nov — Jerzy Janowicz continued to be a thorn in the side of higher ranked opponents as he reached the Paris Masters final with a 6-4, 7-5 win over local favourite Gilles Simon on Saturday. Polish qualifier Janowicz, who beat US Open champion Andy Murray in the third round, used his big serve and his magic touch

to see off Simon and set up a Sunday meeting with Spanish fourth seed David Ferrer.

Ferrer, who is looking to clinch his maiden Masters title, dismissed France's Michael Llodra 7-5, 6-3 in the other semi-final after saving 10 break points in the opening set. Wildcard Llodra, who had won his

43 service games in the tournament heading into Saturday's clash, took a medical timeout to have his back massaged while trailing 3-0 in the second set. Ferrer wrapped it up with a crosscourt forehand winner after one hour 50 minutes.

"I tried to be very focused every time (he had a break points)," Ferrer told a news conference. "I was more aggressive in the important moments." Llodra, who played serve and volley throughout, was left frustrated by the defeat. "It's extremely frustrating, because I believe if I was serving first it would have been a different match. I don't remember how many break points I had, maybe ten, in all games I think except one," said the Frenchman. "If I had won that first set it would have been different. I would have been ahead; he would have been more tense.

Reuters

Nets celebrate Brooklyn opening by beating Raptors

Raptors

NEW YORK, 4 Nov — The Brooklyn Nets baptized their new Barclays Center home with a 107-100 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Saturday as the first major professional sports team in 55 years to call Brooklyn their home. The Nets led by 13 points in the third quarter, but had to hold off the Raptors, who closed within 97-95 with 75 seconds left before a three-point play by Brook Lopez gave Brooklyn the necessary cushion in their first game of the season. "The experience was just absolutely amazing," said Lopez. "The crowd brought so much energy, its Brooklyn energy."

Center Lopez led the Nets with 27 points, while Kyle Lowry scored 28 points and DeMar DeRozan had 25 for Toronto, who fell to 0-2 after an opening home loss to the Indiana Pacers. The Nets, who moved to Brooklyn from New Jersey, had been

scheduled to play their home opener on Thursday against cross-city rivals the Knicks, but the game was postponed because of mass transit problems due to damage by the superstorm Sandy that hit the area on Monday. National

Basketball

Basketball Association Commissioner David Stern greeted the crowd, expressing concern for storm victims before declaring: "Welcome Brooklyn, USA, to the NBA."

Reuters



Toronto Raptors center Andrea Bargnani (7) tries to pass between Brooklyn Nets center Brook Lopez (L) and forward Gerald Wallace (R) in the first quarter of their NBA basketball game in New York, on 3 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(5-11-12 09:30 am ~ 6-11-12 09:30 am) MST
 * News
 * Press Conference of Nippon Foundation in Myanmar
 * News
 * Amarapura, Origin of Hand Loom Weaving
 * News
 * Shan Traditional "Yaing" Dance
 * News
 * "Youths & Career" Asia Masters Tourism & Hospitality Training Centre (Part-1)
 * News

* The Heart of The Greening Network
 * News
 * Music Programme
 * Indian Technological & Economic Cooperation Day Dinner Reception
 * News
 * News Tid-Bits(I)
 * News
 * News Tid-Bits(II)
 * Myanmar Movie "Gardener"

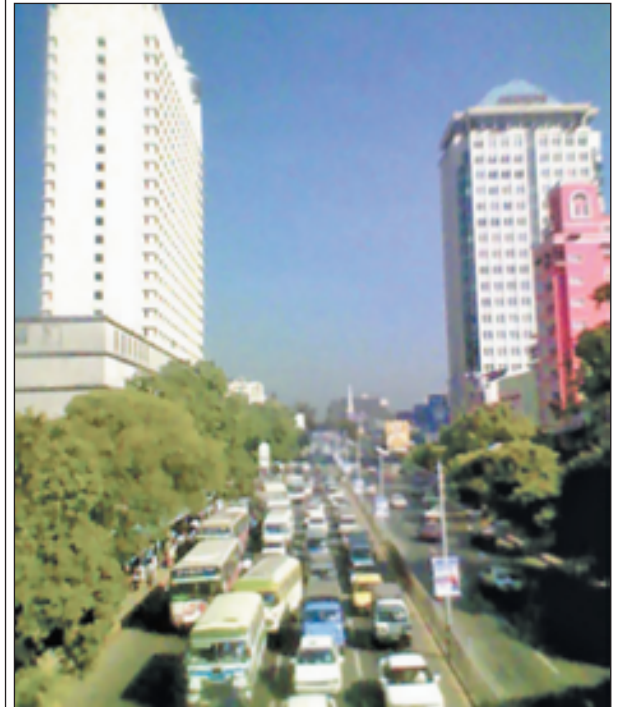
MYANMAR TV

(5-11-2012, Monday)

7:00 am
 1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatathandi Paritta

7:30 am
 2. Morning News
 7:50 am
 3. Nice & Sweet Song
 8:00 am
 4. Health Programme
 8:15 am
 5. Song Of National Races
 8:20 am
 6. Cute Little Dancer
 8:30 pm
 7. Teleplay (Industry)
 8:45 am
 8. Musical Programme
 4:00 pm
 9. Martial Song
 4:10 pm
 10. Dance Variety
 4:30 pm
 11. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Economic)
 4:55 pm
 12. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
 5:00 pm
 13. Music Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
 5:10 pm
 14. Teleplay (Agri)
 5:25 pm
 15. Myanmar Language
 6:20 pm
 16. Sing & Enjoy
 7:45 pm
 17. Song Programme
 8:00 pm
 18. News
 19. Cartoon Series
 20. TV Drama Series
 21. India Drama Series

Traffic rules adherence in Yangon questioned



NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov—Adherence of traffic rules in Yangon is in question as the commercial city is facing increasing traffic jams like never before.
 "Traffic jam escalates day by day," Executive Editor Daw Lwin Lwin groans about the heavy traffic congestion of the largest city of Myanmar.
 "Labour and time are last in packed and unbreathable buses." She sees it as a discouraging factor for service industry of the commercial hub.
 A near-death survivor of a clash of two city buses called for fierce action while recalling his devastating morning of a creepy line of buses near the bus stop of former Tamway market.
 "Serious actions should be taken," he said.
 Ko Zaw Lin, a taxi cab driver, sees "speed" as a "problem", suggesting the wheel holders to keep their cars at the speed that should be.
 A Yangonite said vendors by the streets contributed to the congestion as well.
 "Corruption is challenging the traffic rules," he said.
 Kyemon

Seven gunmen killed in Nigeria operation to free abducted Turkish national

PORT HARCOURT, (Nigeria), 4 Nov — Seven gunmen were killed in a gun duel between a notorious kidnap gang and police in southern Nigeria, authorities said on Saturday.
 State police spokes-person Ben Ugwuegbulam told reporters that an anti-kidnap squad stormed a hideout of kidnappers on Friday and freed a Turkish national captured in Port Harcourt, capital of oil-rich Rivers State.
 "The police got an information that the gunmen had kidnapped a Turkish national named Biram Karakus. The foreigner is a staff of Rivigo Construction Company in Port Harcourt," the spokesperson said.
 Ugwuegbulam said when police arrived at the kidnappers' den, the hoodlums shot at them before escape. "However, the police returned fire and killed seven of the gunmen, including their gang leader named Bishop Nelly, in the ensuing gun battle," he added.—Xinhua



A pedestrian tries to hold her umbrella against strong winds in Beijing, capital of China, on 3 Nov, 2012. The cold wave that has swept northwestern China is moving eastward and is expected to bring blizzards to parts of northern China, the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) forecast on Saturday.—XINHUA

New York nanny arrested in slayings of two young children

Crime

NEW YORK, 4 Nov— A New York nanny suspected of slaying two young children of a Manhattan couple last month in their luxury apartment was arrested on Saturday and charged with murder in their stabbing deaths, New York's deputy police commissioner said.
 The nanny, Yoselyn Ortega, was arrested over the deaths of 6-year-old Lucia Krim and her toddler brother Leo, who had been days shy of his second birthday, following a bedside interview at New York Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Centre.
 The children's mother, Marina Krim, found her son and older daughter stabbed to death in the bathtub as she returned home on 25 October from a swimming lesson with a third child, 3-year-old Nessie, who was unharmed, police have said.
 The nanny, who remains hospitalized and under guard, then began stabbing herself in front of the children's mother in the apartment on Manhattan's affluent Upper West Side.
 "No longer intubated and recuperating from what appeared to be wounds she inflicted on herself at the crime scene, Ortega agreed to talk to New York City detectives this afternoon," Deputy Police Commissioner Paul Browne said in a statement. "After the interview, at 6:06 pm today, Ortega was formally arrested and charged with murdering both children."
 He said that Ortega, 50, was charged with two counts of first degree murder and two counts of second degree murder over the killings, which sent shock waves through the city.
 Ortega, who had been employed by the Krim family for two years before the killings, lived with her son and sister near the Krims' apartment off Central Park and has been a naturalized US citizen for a decade, police said.
 She was apparently referred to the Krims by another family, police have said.—Reuters



A makeshift memorial is left outside the Krim family apartment in New York, on 28 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

US disaster relief in a race against freezing cold

US

NEW YORK, 4 Nov— Fuel supplies headed toward disaster zones in the US Northeast on Saturday and a million customers regained electricity as near freezing temperatures threatened to add to the misery of coastal communities devastated by superstorm Sandy.
 The power restorations relit the skyline in Lower Manhattan for the first time in nearly a week and allowed 80 percent of the New York City subway service to resume, but more than a million homes and businesses still lacked power, down from 3.5 million on Friday.
 In Staten Island, the New York City borough whose half a million residents bore the brunt of Sandy, people tried to stay warm.
 Tom Clark, 43, and family members were burning



Hurricane Sandy damaged areas are seen along Rt 35 in Bayhead, New Jersey, on 2 Nov, 2012 in this handout image courtesy of the governor's office.

wood in a steel drum on their front yard. Clark said the family and their dogs planned to go stay at his mother-in-law's heated house.
 George Harrison, 39, and his wife had masks hanging around their necks that they had used to shield them from the stench of raw sewage when they entered their flood-hit house. New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Saturday urged those without power and heat — especially the elderly and other vulnerable groups — to head to shelters where they could keep warm and receive food.—Reuters

President U Thein Sein arrives in Vientiane, Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party left here by air this morning to attend the 9th Asia-Europe Meeting to be held in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic and arrived at the Wattay International Airport, Vientiane at 11.45 am LST.

President U Thein Sein and party were welcomed at the airport by Minister of Health of Lao PDR Prof Dr Eksavang Vongvichit, Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Mr Noulin Sinhbandith, Minister of Posts, Telegraphs and Communications Mr Hiem Phommachanh, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Mr Vilayvanh Phomkhe, Deputy Vientiane Mayor Mr

Soukanh Muhuluth, Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nilahath Sayarath, Myanmar Ambassador to Lao PDR U Kyaw Soe Win, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Win Myint and staff from embassy and military attaché office and their families.

Next, the President and party proceeded to Dong Chan Guest House in Vientiane in a motorcade.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein takes the salute of the Guard of Honour at Wattay International Airport, Vientiane, Lao PDR.—MNA



President U Thein Sein being seen off by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at Nay Pyi Taw Airport before departure for Lao PDR to attend 9th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM9).—MNA

President U Thein Sein leaves for Lao PDR to attend 9th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM9)

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein at 10 am left here by air for Lao People's Democratic Republic to attend the 9th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM9) to be held there.

President U Thein Sein was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt, U Myint Hlaing, U

Thein Tun, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Tint Hsan, Dr Mya Aye and Dr Ko Ko Oo, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye and heads of department and Charge d' Affaires of Laotian Embassy in Myanmar Mr Vongpano Sipaseuth.

Members of the Myanmar delegation led by President U Thein Sein are Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint and departmental heads.

MNA

Summary of observations at 9:30 hr MST on 4-11-2012

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions, Scattered in Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions, Shan State, isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Chin and Rakhine States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were 5°C above November average temperatures in Eastern Shan and Rakhine States, 3°C to 4°C above November average temperatures in lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Chin and Mon States, about November average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM

WWII carrier pigeon remains found in UK chimney

SURREY (England), 4 Nov—The remains of a World War II carrier pigeon, found during renovations at a southern England home.

David Martin found the bird when he was cleaning out a Victorian fireplace he's unearthed.

"As we pulled them out, bits of bird came out with it the breast bone first, then the head and the leg with an aluminium ring

round it, obviously a racing pigeon, then we found a red capsule attached to it and I said 'I wonder if it's a secret message' and it was. After we took the spool off there was a cigarette paper with coded writing on it."

Martin's home in Surrey is close to a hotel where Britain's General Montgomery planned the D-Day invasion of France.

World War II experts are

now trying to decipher the message. Sent by a Sergeant W. Stott, the message was meant to reach a mysterious 'X02' - a possible code name for 'Bomber Command'.

Homing pigeons were often used by Allied forces to send messages during World War II. Flying at speeds of up to 80 kilometres per hour, pigeons can travel distances of up to 1000 kilometres.

Reuters

