

Myanmar will redouble efforts to bring benefit and prosperity to nation and its people

President U Thein Sein

US to continue to work hard to strengthen bilateral relationship to promote progress that would be good not only for Myanmar but for region and international community

President Obama

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov.— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met President of the United States of America Mr Barack Obama at the meeting hall of Yangon Region Hluttaw in Yangon this morning.

Present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thein, U Aung Min and U Maung Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and Myanmar Ambassador to the United States of America U Than Swe. The US President was accompanied by US Secretary of State Mrs Hillary Clinton, National Security Adviser to the President Mr Thomas E. Donilon, Deputy National Security Adviser for International Economic Affairs Mr Michael Froman, Assistant Secretary for Asia and Pacific Affairs Mr Kurt M. Campbell, Deputy National Security Adviser for Strategic Communications Mr Ben Rhodes, US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell and high-ranking officials.

First, President Barack Obama arrived at Yangon Region Hluttaw Building where he was extended a warm welcome by President U Thein Sein in front of mother Myanmar statue at the entrance to the building.

Next, the two leaders had a documentary photo taken in front of mother Myanmar statue and the US President signed the



President U Thein Sein holds discussion with US President Mr Barack Obama at the meeting hall of Yangon Region Hluttaw.—MNA

visitors' book.

Afterwards, the President received President Barack Obama about an hour at the meeting hall.

After the meeting, the two Presidents met with local and foreign correspondents and explained the meetings between the two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, President U Thein Sein said that the visit of President Obama to Myanmar was the milestone of Myanmar.

Myanmar established diplomatic ties with the United States in the year 1947, a year before Myanmar gained independence and the two countries had long history and had maintained friendly relations, he added.

For the past 20 years, there were some difficulties and obstacles in the bilateral relations, however, the relations between the two countries had been progressing steadily thanks

to vision of President Obama and efforts of the Secretary of the State and the US ambassador to Myanmar, he said. President U Thein Sein expressed his commitment to continue cooperation to strengthen the bilateral relations in the years to come. Based on mutual respect, understanding and cooperation, Myanmar would move forward to further strengthen and promote the bilateral

relations, President U Thein Sein said.

Myanmar would continue to cooperate with the United States for development of democracy in Myanmar and for promoting of human rights of international standard, for the capacity buildings of officials and for development of the people of Myanmar, and the US President has given a green light for that, he added.

President U Thein Sein said that Myanmar will redouble efforts to translate the results of their discussions into benefit and prosperity of the people of Myanmar.

He also expressed his sincere appreciation to President Obama's visions, and the support as well as the efforts of the Secretary of State Mrs Clinton, the US Ambassador to Myanmar and the responsible officials from the State Department.

(See page 2)

Myanmar will redouble efforts to bring benefit...

(from page 1)

President U Thein Sein used the exact word used by the President Obama saying that Myanmar will continue to move forward.

Afterwards, President Obama thanked the President U Thein Sein for hosting them today and the incredible hospitality that everybody has shown them.

President Obama said they had a very constructive conversation and he shared with President U Thein Sein their belief that the process of reform that President U Thein Sein was taking was one that would move Myanmar forward.

He continued to say that the steps that President U Thein Sein had already taken for human rights, child soldiers were discussed at Myanmar-US human rights workshop and these would be beneficial to the country.

President Obama shared with President U Thein Sein the fact that he recognized that that was just the first steps on what would be long journey.

He thought that a process of democratic reform and economic reform in Myanmar that had been begun by the President U Thein Sein was one that can lead to incredible



President U Thein Sein cordially shakes hands with US President Mr Barack Obama.

MNA

development opportunities for Myanmar, said President Obama.

He continued to say that they were committed to continuing to work very hard to try to strengthen the bilateral relationship so that they could promote progress that would be good not only for Myanmar but for the region and for the international community.

He appreciated that concrete cooperation that President U Thein

Sein had announced with respect to non-proliferation issues, including the IAEA additional protocol, because he thought they shared an interests in trying to curb the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

President Obama said that he looked forward to not only a good visit this day, but hopefully another visit sometime in the future. Again, the two presidents cordially shook hands.

MNA

Speakers of Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw meet US President Barack Obama

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov— Visiting US President Mr. Barack Obama accompanied by US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton and US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Derek Mitchell met Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint at the hall of Yangon Region Hluttaw Building at 11.10 am today.

In his speech, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker congratulated the US President on his re-election

reforms in Myanmar and improve bilateral cooperation and mutual relations between the two countries, thereby contributing towards regional and international peace and stability and development.

The US President frankly replied that the United States recognized the active participation of the Hluttaws in the process of democratic reforms in Myanmar; that he would like to offer a reward for the efforts the Hluttaws have made; that even the

sure Myanmar's democratic reforms would see many difficulties. Surely Myanmar would achieve success in its democratic reforms thanks to leading efforts of the Speakers, he said. There would be further cooperation not only between the two governments but also between the two parliaments and the parliamentary committees. The United States would give a helping hand in the process of democratic reforms in Myanmar.

Together with the



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and US President Mr. Barack Obama pose for documentary photo.—MNA

as President of the United States. He continued that US President's visit to Myanmar would boost democratic

top democratic countries encountered difficulties in carrying out democratic matters; that it was pretty

Hluttaw Speakers, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win attended the call.—MNA

US President Barack Obama on working visit to Myanmar



Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin and U Maung Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and officials warmly welcome US President Mr Barack Obama at the airport.—MNA

YANGON, 19 Nov— At the invitation of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, President of the United States

of America Mr. Barack Obama, accompanied by US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton, arrived here by special flight at 9:40 am

today to pay a working visit to Myanmar.

On their arrival at the Yangon International Airport, Union Minister for

Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Yangon Region Development Affairs Minister Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to the United States U Than Swe, American Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Derek Mitchell and officials concerned welcomed them.

There, the US President received bouquet given by a Myanmar young girl and salute by the Guard of Honour.

Waving the miniature flags of two countries,

Cash donated for rehabilitation tasks of earthquake-hit region

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov— A ceremony to present cash for rehabilitation tasks of earthquake-hit victims in Mandalay Region was held at the meeting hall of the government office on 17 November.

Under the leadership of Professor Dean of Patipatti Faculty of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Dhammaduta Dr Ashin Chekinna, actor Lu Min and film stars donated K 1

crowds of people, students and monks gave a rousing welcome to the US President.

million, China Red Cross Society led by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua US \$ 50,000, Ambassador and embassy staff US \$ 10000, Chinese Entrepreneurs Association K 10 million, a group led by General Manager Mr Li Zhon of China International Forestry Group Myanmar Co., Ltd US \$ 10,000. Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint accepted the donations and gave certificates of honour to them and spoke words of thanks. The region chief minister viewed the damaged temples hit by strong earthquake in Mandalay Region.

MNA

MNA

Another rocket barrage launched towards Tel Aviv, Israel intercepted by defence system

TEL AVIV, 19 Nov— Another barrage of rockets was launched from the Gaza Strip to Tel Aviv on Sunday evening, for the second time in 24 hours.

Two rockets were intercepted by the Iron Dome anti-missiles battery, which was deployed in the region early Saturday.

Sirens went off at around

6:40 pm (1640 GMT) and sent the city's residents to shelters and protected spaces. Eyewitnesses reported hearing two loud sounds of explosion, apparently the two interceptions mentioned.

This is the fifth barrage of rockets launched towards the central city, which has not been in missiles range since

the 1991 Gulf War with Iraq. The Hamas military wing claimed responsibility for the *Fajr-5* long-range missiles' attack.

On Sunday morning, another barrage of rockets was launched towards Tel Aviv at about 10:30 am (0830 GMT). Two missiles were intercepted, and shrapnel caused damage to a vehicle in Holon, southern of Tel Aviv. No injuries were reported.

The Israeli army's "Operation Pillar of Defence" entered its fifth day on Sunday, under mixed reports of an approaching ceasefire as well as speculation over a possible ground invasion into the Gaza Strip.

Four Israelis were injured Sunday afternoon after a rocket hit their vehicle. One was severely injured, two others suffered mediocre wounds, and the other person was wounded lightly.

Another person suffered

moderate wounds in the southern region of Sha'ar Hanegev, after being hit by shrapnel in his face. He was evacuated in stable condition to the nearby Be'er Sheva hospital.

Overall, more than 900 rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip, mainly towards southern communities including cities like Be'er Sheva, Ofakim, Dimona and others. The Iron-Dome system intercepted 302 rockets, according to the IDF.

During the weekly cabinet meeting, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the army is prepared for a ground invasion of the Gaza Strip.

"We are exacting a heavy price from the Hamas and the other militant organizations, and the IDF is prepared for a significant expansion of its operation," Netanyahu said.

Xinhua



Israelis stand next to a damaged vehicle after a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip landed in Ashdod, southern Israel, on 18 Nov, 2012. Palestinian rocket fire and Israeli airstrikes continued on Sunday as the Israeli Operation Pillar of Defence entered its fifth day.— XINHUA



Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao (R) meets with Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, on 18 Nov, 2012.

XINHUA

Chinese premier meets Malaysian counterpart, pledges closer cooperation

PHNOM PENH, 19 Nov— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao met with his Malaysian counterpart Najib Razak here on Sunday and pledged to boost cooperation between the two nations.

Wen noted that in recent years, China-Malaysia relations have increasingly developed and are among the best bilateral ties China has developed with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Both sides have attached more importance to mutual understanding and support in political and security spheres with strategic perspectives, said the Chinese premier.

Noting China has become Malaysia's largest trading partner, Wen also said that the two countries have achieved outstanding progress in cooperation in finance, major projects and cultural exchanges.

All these developments have not only enabled both sides to work together to better cope with complicated regional situations and the global

China

financial crisis, but also have set up a basis for achieving common development in the longer-term and of higher levels for the two countries, he added.

Premier Wen proposed that both governments work more closely to map out a five-year blueprint for bilateral economic and trade cooperation and ensure successes of the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park and the Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park.

Both sides should also boost cooperation in tourism, education, finance, medicine and telecommunications in a bid to bring more benefits to the two countries and their peoples, said the Chinese premier.

For his part, Najib said the successful conclusion of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China has made Malaysia have more confidence in the development prospects of both China and the Malaysia-China relations.

Xinhua

More diplomacy to try to halt Israel-Gaza fighting

TEL AVIV, 19 Nov— Hostilities between Islamist militants and Israel entered a sixth day on Monday as diplomatic efforts were set to intensify to try to stop rocket fire from the Gaza Strip and Israeli air strikes on Gaza.

International pressure for a ceasefire seemed certain to mount after the deadliest single incident in the flare-up on Sunday claimed the lives of at least 11 Palestinian civilians, including four children. United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon was due to arrive in Cairo to add his weight to the truce efforts. Egypt has taken the lead in trying to broker a ceasefire and its officials met the parties on Sunday.

The 11 Palestinian civilians were apparently

killed during an Israeli attack on a militant, which brought a three-storey house crashing down on them.

Gaza health officials have said 75 Palestinians, 21 of them children and several women, have been killed in Gaza since Israel's offensive began. Hundreds have been wounded.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had assured world leaders that Israel was doing its utmost to avoid causing civilian casualties in the military showdown with Hamas.

Gaza militants launched dozens of rockets into Israel and targeted its commercial capital, Tel Aviv, for a fourth day on Sunday. Israel's "Iron Dome" missile shield shot

down all three rockets.

In scenes recalling Israel's 2008-2009 winter invasion of Gaza, tanks, artillery and infantry have massed in field

encampments along the sandy, fenced-off border with Gaza and military convoys moved on roads in the area.

Reuters



A municipality worker walks past a hole in the road after a rocket fired by Palestinian militants in Gaza landed in the southern City of Ashdod on 18 Nov 2012.

REUTERS

Israeli air strike kills 11 civilians in Gaza: Hamas

GAZA/JERUSALEM, 19 Nov— An Israeli missile killed at least 11 Palestinian civilians including four children in Gaza on Sunday, medical officials said, apparently an attack on a top militant that brought a three-storey home crashing down.

International pressure for a ceasefire seemed certain to mount in response to the deadliest single incident in five days of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel and Israeli air strikes on the Gaza Strip.

Egypt has taken the lead in trying to broker a ceasefire and Israeli media said a delegation from Israel had

been to Cairo for talks on ending the fighting, although a government spokesman declined to comment on the matter. Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi met Hamas political leader Khaled Meshaal and Islamic Jihad's head Ramadan Shallah as part of the mediation efforts, but a presidency statement did not say if they were conclusive.

A spokesman for the Hamas-run Interior Ministry said 11 people, all of them civilians, were killed when an Israeli missile flattened the home of the Dalu family. Medics said four women and four children were among the

dead. Israel's chief military spokesman said Yihia Abayah, a senior commander of rocket operations in the Gaza Strip, had been the target.

The spokesman, Yoav Mordechai, told Israel's Channel 2 television he did not know whether Abayah was killed, "but the outcome was that there were civilian casualties". He made no direct mention of the destroyed dwelling.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said earlier that he had assured world leaders that Israel was doing its utmost to avoid causing civilian casualties in the military

showdown with Hamas.

Netanyahu said Israel was ready to widen its offensive.

"We are exacting a heavy price from Hamas and the terrorist organisations and the Israel Defence Forces are prepared for a significant expansion of the operation," he said at a cabinet meeting, giving no further details. The Israeli military said 544 rockets fired from Gaza have hit Israel since Wednesday, killing three civilians and wounding dozens. Some 302 were intercepted and 99 failed to reach Israel and landed inside the Gaza Strip, it added.

Reuters

Three killed, 23 injured as blast reported near Shia mosque in Karachi, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 19 Nov— At least three people were killed and 23 others injured when a bomb went off near a mosque in Pakistan's southern port City of Karachi on Sunday night, said an official.

Sharfuddin Memon, Advisor to Home Minister of Sindh Province where Karachi is its capital, said that the blast which hit Mustafa Mosque, the

largest mosque for Shiite Muslims in the city, on Sunday night, killed at least three Shiite Muslims including a woman and wounded 23 others.

The injured also include five members of Rangers, a paramilitary force in Pakistan, who were posted at the mosque to protect the prayers, confirmed a spokesman of Rangers.

Xinhua

Economy, environment go together towards green

BEIJING, 19 Nov— Economy and environment should be brought together towards a green ecological development mode, said participants at the fifth annual World Economic and Environmental Conference

(WEC) Saturday in Beijing. This will be a core goal for countries to jointly respond to climate change and deteriorating environmental problems, they added.

Focusing on future momentum for green and

sustainable development, they also held that China's future on implementing sustainable development will be promising. "It is very strongly anchored in the current 5-year-plan of Chinese government to promote green economy, promote circulate economy, the recycling of goods and resources," said Irene Giner-Reichl, Austrian ambassador to China and to Mongolia.

To cope with the current context of global recession, most of the participants said that economic recovery and environmental protection are not antagonist, rather they could go hand in hand. "Environmental protection can lead to economic development," pointed out Monica Oliphant, honorary president and former president of the International Solar Energy Society.

It in deed has been a big debate all around the world, agreed John Edwards, Counsellor at British Embassy in Beijing.

"But you looked at figures of the UK for the last year, one third of the UK's growth was from the green economy, many of the other part of economy shrank," Edwards added, saying "It employed 4 percent as 1 in every 25 people. It worth 200 billion dollars a year."

More than 3,000 international political and business leaders from over 40 countries and regions attended the conference.

The conference, an international and professional session launched in China, aims at promoting a green development mode in the course of human activities by joint efforts from walks of life.—Xinhua



Edward Clarence-Smith, Chairman Representative of UNIDO in China, and Secretary-General of the Organization Committee, speaks at the opening ceremony of the fifth World Economic and Environmental Conference. The conference lasts from 17 to 18 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

Soyuz with crew of three lands in Kazakhstan

ALMATY, 19 Nov—A Russian Soyuz capsule landed on the Kazakh steppe on Monday, safely delivering a trio of astronauts from a four-month stint aboard the International Space Station.

The Soyuz TMA-05M capsule, carrying Japanese astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko and US astronaut Sunita Williams, parachuted through dark, cloudy skies and touched down at 7:56 am local time (0156 GMT). A round of applause greeted the landing at Russian mission control near Moscow, footage from NASA TV showed. A screen inside the building showed the message: "We have landing!"

The capsule blazed a red plasma trail across the dark sky after re-entering the Earth's atmosphere. It landed on its side on the snow-covered

steppe 52 miles northeast of the town of Arkalyk in northern Kazakhstan.

The astronauts were extracted quickly from the capsule and wrapped in blue thermal blankets. All three smiled and appeared relaxed as they chatted with the search-and-recovery team, NASA TV footage showed. "Fresh air—very good!" Williams said, in Russian. The landing, after a three-and-a-half-hour descent from the orbital outpost, was the first pre-dawn touchdown since 2006. The Expedition 33 crew had spent 125 days aboard the International Space Station, a \$100 billion research complex involving 15 countries and orbiting 250 miles above Earth.

The crew conducted a number of experiments, including tests on radiation levels at the space station and research into the effects

of melting glaciers and seasonal changes on Earth's ecosystems, NASA said in a statement. They also managed several visits to the space station by international and commercial spacecraft and conducted several space walks to maintain the station.

A three-man crew

remains aboard the space station. When NASA's Kevin Ford and rookie cosmonauts Oleg Novitsky and Yevgeny Tarelkin—both on their first space mission—docked on 25 October, they brought with them Japanese fish for a variety of experiments.

Reuters



The International Space Station (ISS) crew members Japanese astronaut Akihiko Hoshide (L), Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko (C) and US astronaut Sunita Williams rest after landing near the town of Arkalyk in northern Kazakhstan on 19 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

World Bank warns of climate change disaster

WASHINGTON, 19 Nov—The world is barreling down a path to heat up by four degrees at the end of the century if the global community fails to act on climate change, the World Bank said on Sunday in a report.

Among the consequences are a cascade of cataclysmic changes that include extreme heat-waves, declining global food stocks and a sea-level rise affecting hundreds of millions of people, it warned. All regions of the world would suffer — some more than others — but the Turn Down the Heat report finds that the poor will suffer the most.

The report is a snapshot of the latest climate science prepared for the World Bank by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and Climate Analytics.

"A four degrees warmer world can, and must be, avoided — we need to hold warming below two degrees," said World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim in the report. "Climate change is one of the single biggest challenges facing development, and we need to assume the moral responsibility to take action on behalf of future generations, especially the poorest," it said.

Xinhua

Cisco to buy cloud-networking start-up Meraki for \$1.2 billion

NEW YORK, 19 Nov—Networking equipment company Cisco Systems Inc said it will buy privately held cloud networking company Meraki for \$1.2 billion (754.6 million pounds) in cash as part of its cloud and networking strategy. Cisco said the acquisition of Meraki, which was founded in 2006 by members of MIT's Laboratory for Computer Science, is expected to close in the second quarter of Cisco's 2013 fiscal year and is subject to regulatory approval.

Cisco's second quarter runs until the end of January. Meraki—funded by

Sequoia Capital and Google Inc—offers Wi-Fi technology, switching, security and mobile device management from the cloud with a focus on mid-sized businesses.

"This is a very logical move for Cisco," said ZK research analyst Zeus Kerravala. He said the deal will allow Cisco to offer alternative solutions to traditional Wi-Fi deployment models like smaller competitors, such as Aruba Networks and Ruckus Wireless, which debuted on Friday.

"Cisco didn't really have anything to counter that before," Kerravala noted.



Long March-2C carrier rocket carrying an environment-monitoring satellite Huanjing-1C blasts off from the launch pad at the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in Taiyuan, capital of north China's Shanxi Province, on 19 Nov, 2012. The Huanjing-1C satellite and the other two satellites Huanjing-1A and Huanjing-1B, which were sent to the outer space in 2008, will be used to monitor the environment and help reduce natural disasters.—XINHUA

Israeli government websites under mass hacking attack

JERUSALEM, 19 Nov—More than 44 million hacking attempts have been made on Israeli government web sites since Wednesday when Israel began its Gaza air strikes, the government said on Sunday.

Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz said just one hacking attempt was successful on a site he did not want to name, but it was up and running after 10 minutes of downtime.

Typically, there are a few hundred hacking attempts a day on Israeli sites, the ministry said.

Attempts on defence-related sites have been the highest, while 10 million attempts have been made on the site of Israel's president, 7 million on the Foreign Ministry and 3 million on the site of the prime minister.

A ministry spokesman said while the attacks have come from around the world, most have been from Israel and the Palestinian territories.

"The ministry's computer division will continue to block the millions of cyber attacks," Steinitz said. "We are enjoying the fruits of our investment in recent years in developing computerized defence systems."

Steinitz has instructed his ministry to operate in emergency mode to counter attempts to undermine government sites.

Both sides in the Gaza conflict, but particularly Israel, are embracing the social media as one of their tools of warfare. The Israeli Defence Force has established a presence on nearly every platform available while Palestinian militants are active on Twitter.

"The war is taking place on three fronts. The first is physical, the second is on the world of social networks and the third is cyber," said Carmela Avner, Israel's chief information officer.

Reuters



A Cisco office is pictured in San Diego, California on 12 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Meraki's Chief Executive Sanjit Biswas said in a letter to employees posted on the company website that Cisco had approached the company several weeks ago.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Business

Asian shares rise on US fiscal hopes

TOKYO, 19 Nov—Asian shares rose on Monday, supported by hopes US politicians can overcome an imminent fiscal crunch while the yen fell to a near seven-month low against the dollar on expectations a new government chosen in next month's election could pump large amounts of stimulus cash into the economy.

A 0.2 percent gain in US stock futures point to a firm Wall Street open, and financial spreadbetters predict London's FTSE 100 (.FTSE), Paris's CAC-40 (.FCHI) and Frankfurt's DAX (.GDAXI) will open as much as 0.9 percent higher. (.L) (.EU) (.N)

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan <.MIAPJ0000 PUS>



People shake hands in front of an electronic board displaying a graph of Japan's Nikkei share average and other market indices outside a brokerage in Tokyo on 30 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

rose 0.5 percent, recovering from Friday's nine-week low.

Its energy sector <.MIAPJEN00PUS> outperformed as mounting supply concerns on escalating tension from Israeli air

strikes on the Gaza Strip and Hamas rocket attacks on Israel underpinned oil prices. The materials sector <.MIAPJMT00PUS> was among top gainers as London copper rallied 1 percent to \$7,684 a tonne on a renewed

growth outlook for China and hopes for a solution to the US fiscal cliff. (MTL).

Australian shares (.AXJO) climbed 0.6 percent but Shanghai shares (.SSEC) underperformed with a 0.5 percent drop, having earlier touched levels not seen since early 2009.

"We had some positive leads from the US on Friday. Our market had been underperforming last week," Peter Esho, chief market analyst at City Index, said of Australian equities.

"There's some hope that the negotiations in the US around the fiscal situation may some-what improve—the prospects around that may improve this week."

Japan's Nikkei average (.N225), which bucked the broad Asian downtrend on Friday and surged 2.2 percent, extended gains with a 1.4 percent climb to close at a two-month high.

Reuters

Death toll from yellow fever in Sudan's Darfur region jumps to 150

KHARTOUM, 19 Nov—The death toll from yellow fever jumped to 150 in Sudan's Darfur region and the number of infection cases to 400, Khartoum's *Al-Ray Al Am* daily reported on Sunday.

"The death cases from yellow fever in Darfur region reached 150 in addition to the infection of 400 people," the report said.

The paper further disclosed that great quantities of yellow fever vaccines have arrived in the country and have been received by Sudanese ministry of health, while the remaining quantity is expected to arrive in the coming days to reach 4.2 million doses at a cost of more than 7 million US dollars.

The vaccines would be transported to the region to commence a vaccination

campaign by the end of this week. According to the paper, the disease outbreak has sparked panic among the citizens of the region.

The World Health Organization (WHO) last week announced that the total number of cases had reached 374, including 110 deaths, with case fatality rate of 29.4 percent.

It said seven quarantine centres have been established in Nyala, Kass, Nertity, Zalengei, Garcilla, Morni and Geneina in response to the disease outbreak in the region.

Yellow fever is mainly spread by mosquitoes, and its most frequent symptoms are fever, bleeding and vomiting. There is no effective treatment for the disease other than alleviate dehydration and fever and blood transfusion.—Xinhua

GM ups capacity in no-frills China car market

BEIJING, 19 Nov—General Motors Co. and its local partners, intensifying competition in China in the no-frills car market, on Sunday formally opened another plant for its low-cost Baojun brand.

The plant in the southern China City of Liuzhou is Baojun's second producing cars priced as low as 40,000 yuan (4,028.96 pounds).

Much of the competition in China's auto market is focused on the cheaper end of the market where foreign-led joint ventures targeting China's emerging middle class are piling pressure on indigenous entry level manufacturers like Geely and Chery.

By 2013, some 65.6 million household in China will have annual incomes



The General Motors logo is seen outside its headquarters at the Renaissance Center in Detroit, Michigan in this file photograph taken on 25 August, 2009. —REUTERS

of 60,000 yuan or more - a level deemed sufficient for a family to buy a no-frills car, according to an estimate by US consulting firm Alix Partners. The latest Baojun opening follows Nissan Motor Co's <7201.T> launch earlier this year of the second of five models of the no-frills Venucia marque it and its local partner plan

to introduce into China by 2015. Nissan aims to sell 300,000 Venucia cars a year y 2015.

GM's new plant in Liuzhou, where GM operates as part of the SAIC GM Wuling Automobile Co partnership, will eventually have capacity to produce 400,000 cars a year.

Reuters

China, ASEAN boost lumber, wood products trade

NANNING, 19 Nov—China and ASEAN member states have seen increases in trade and cooperation in the lumber and wood products industry during an exposition held in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Thousands of enterprises and customers from China and Southeast Asian nations attended the ongoing China-ASEAN Forest & Wood Products Expo, scheduled from 16 to 19 Nov in Nanning, provincial capital of Guangxi.

About 1,500 booths have been set up at the exhibition to display and sell a range of wood products, including furniture, build-

ing materials, pulp paper, garden plants and flowers, machines made of wood and other wood products.

International trade forums, wood culture forums and exchange and communication meetings will also be held during the expo.

"Although this is the first time I have attended the expo, I have known China for a long time, as our company has taken part in many commodities fairs in Guangxi and Yunnan," Vietnamese exhibitor Nguyen Chau Wan said, adding that China has become an important market for her company in recent years.

Tsai Kuen-sheng, who runs a rosewood craft company in Vietnam, said

Chinese customers favor rosewood furniture and the low circulation costs in the free trade area between China and the ASEAN have brought many benefits to his company.

"I hope to know more trade partners and secure more orders on the expo, as well as raise the prestige of our brand," Tsai said.

Statistics released by State Forestry Administration show that the output value of China's lumber and wood products industry in 2011 totaled 490 billion US dollars, and lumber and wood products trade in 2011 amounted to more than 120 billion US dollars.

Xinhua

Business

No deal yet in airline SAS's survival talks with unions

COPENHAGEN/STOCKHOLM, 19 Nov—Troubled Scandinavian airline SAS and unions held vital talks on Sunday aimed at ensuring the company's survival and avoiding bankruptcy, but no deal had been reached by the evening. The Scandinavian airline, hit by competition from lower-price rivals, last week announced plans to cut some salaries by up to 17 percent and reduce overall headcount to about 9,000 from 15,000.

A newspaper said board members were meeting banks in Stockholm after talks with unions that began on Thursday at SAS headquarters at the main airport in Copenhagen. SAS spokeswoman Elisabeth Manzini declined to confirm whether a meeting with banks was taking place.

Fuelling fears aired widely in the Scandinavian media that the lack of a deal



A ground staffer carries warning cones between two SAS Boeing 737 aircrafts parked at Arlanda airport's Terminal Five, north of Stockholm on 13 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

might lead to an immediate bankruptcy application, she said the airline had told crews to make sure airplanes were fully fuelled to return home if necessary.

The airline was also giving cash to flying staff to ensure they could get access to hotels if there was a bankruptcy. "Due to the fact that this is a very serious situation for SAS right now

it is our responsibility as a company and employer to secure our assets, regarding staff as well as planes," she said. However, she declined to say how long SAS's cash would last if the loans with the banks were not agreed to.

The airline had set Sunday as the deadline for a deal, giving no precise time for when that had to be met.

Reuters

Cambodia-US trade reaches 2.2 bln USD in 9 months, up 2 pct

PHNOM PENH, 19 Nov—The bilateral C volume between Cambodia and the United States reached 2.2 billion US dollars in the first nine months of this year, a 2 percent rise compared with 2.15 billion US dollars at the same period last year, according to the statistics of the US Department of Commerce on Monday.

During the January-September period, Cambo-

dia's exports to the US were 2.02 billion US dollars, up 0.5 percent, while the country's imports from the US were 180 million US dollars, up 30 percent.

Cambodia has mainly exported garments, textile and footwear to the United States. In exchange, it has bought vehicles, machinery, and medical equipment and supplies. On the investment side, the United States'

investment in Cambodia was 1.29 billion US dollars from 1994 to July 2012, according to a record by Cambodian Investment Board.

Newly re-elected US President Barack Obama is slated to arrive in Cambodia on Monday afternoon to attend the 4th ASEAN-US Leaders' meeting and the 7th East Asia Summit.

Xinhua

More money exchanges in Mandalay

YANGON, 19 Nov— More foreign exchanges are being kept open at private banks as there is an increase in tourist arrivals in Mandalay. Foreign exchanges of CB bank are being kept open from 9 am to



4 pm daily at places like 78th street in Maha Aungmyay Township, the ground floor of Yadanabon Diamond Plaza and the archway of Maha Muni Buddha Image in Chanmya Thazi Township where tourists throng to.

It is convenient for foreign visitors as selling and buying of US dollar, Euro currency, Singapore dollar, Japan yen and UK pound are being carried out at foreign exchange facilities in accord with the market price.

Kyemon

Counsel given



NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov — Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nyannadhaja of Hilly Region Missionary Monastery in Myitkyina organized a ceremony to receive the

counsel of Ovacacariya Sayadaws in Myitkyina at the monastery at 9 am on 12 November.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silavamsa delivered a

sermon to Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nyannadhaja and congregation. Next, the chief minister and wellwishers offered alms to members of the Sangha.— *Kyemon*

Mine blast causes damage to Phapant bridge

MAWLU, 19 Nov—A mine blast caused damage to the 80-foot Phapant Yaypauk rail bridge (Bridge No-478) between Mawlu and Pinwei stations in Indaw Township of Sagaing Region at 10.30 am yesterday.

The bridge, seven mile far from Mawlu railway station, is situated between mile post Nos (599-23) and (599-24). Rail track on the bridge was ripped in two, and steel truss of the bridge and 15 sleepers were destroyed in the blast.

Due to the mine blast, No (58) down-train from Myitkyina stopped at Mawlu station.

Repair works are being carried out by Engineer U Tin Hla and party.—*Kyemon*



Mandalay seeks ways to reduce traffic congestions

MANDALAY, 19 Nov — “Increase in population and use of vehicles while urbanization is gaining momentum within a few years has resulted in traffic congestions in roads, streets and near markets in Mandalay as well as road accidents. Coordination between Mandalay City Development Committee and departments concerned and market committee will be made to seek the ways and means for reduction in traffic in accord with directive of Mandalay Region government”, Mandalay Mayor U Aung Moun said in meeting with committee members of markets in Mandalay at Thiri Mingalar

Hall on 2 November.

Those present made suggestions that vehicles of shop-keepers should be parked on the parking lot near 25th street in order to avoid traffic congestion near Zaygyo market, that parking of cars and motorbikes on 84th street should not be allowed, that more traffic polices near the Zaygyo market, that effective measures should be taken on trishaws and shops illegally opened on the roads.

Traffic congestions occur on 26th Street, 30th Street, 80th Street, 78th Street, 84th Street, Teikpan Street and Manawhari Street during the period from 8 to 10 am and 3 to 7 pm.

Kyemon



Photo shows basic education middle school level essay and cartoon contests about taxation held at Basic Education High School No (11) in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay Region on 16 November. Altogether 68 students representing respective basic education middle schools were taking part in the contest supervised by Headmistress Daw San Yu May and teachers, and Head of Township Internal Revenue Department U Thein Han (Assistant Director) and staff.

KYEMON

Gala concert at People’s Square in Yangon

YANGON, 19 Nov — According to the press briefing of MTV EXIT at Sedona Hotel yesterday, a gala concert will be held at People’s Square, here, on 16 December with the aim of educating the public about trafficking in person.

The gala concert will be jointly-organized by MTV EXIT and the Myanmar Central Committee for

Prevention against Human Trafficking. Grammy Award Winner and Songwriter Jason Martz together with MTV EXIT Ambassadors to Myanmar Pyu Pyu Kyaw Thein and R Zarni, and singers Chan Chan, Chit Thu Wai, Lin Lin, Sai Sai and Phyo Gyi will perform entertainment at the concert free of charge.

Kyemon

Inspection of model farmland for per acre yield of monsoon paddy



SAGAING, 19 Nov— Deputy Director-General U Thado Aung of Land Records Department (Head Office) and Director U Kyaw Nyein Aung carried out a thorough inspection of Holding No (80) farmland at Field No (823) in Nyaungbinzin village-tract in Sagaing Township of Sagaing District in Sagaing Region on 13 November. They looked into harvesting

the model farmland for correct information about per acre yield of monsoon paddy during 2011-12 monsoon paddy harvest.

According to their observations, the per acre yield of the model farmland where Manaw Thuka paddy strain was planted was 102.89 baskets and 96.37 baskets respectively.

Kyemon

Tatkon Township to celebrate Kathina robe-offering festival

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov — The 46th Tatkon Township Kathina robe-offering festival will be held from 24 to 28 November (11th to 15 Waxing of Tazaungmon) on a grand scale.

As a traditional festival of Tatkon Township which is annually held, arrangements have been

made to stage a variety of entertainment programmes at this year’s festival, and the festive ground will be near Sasana Beikman in Bo Min Yaung ward. As mobile entertainment programme, famous singers will entertain the people wandering around the streets in the township.

Kyemon



Pazundaung Township offers Padethabins to monasteries

YANGON, 19 Nov— The 17th Kahtina robe-offering ceremony of Pazundaung Township was held yesterday. A total of 40 padethabin donated by families of ward-1 and wellwishers were offered

to seven monasteries in the township. Seven monasteries received K 125,000 each as cash donation of wellwishers.

At 3pm, the congregation shared the merit gained in the presence of seven members of the Sangha.—*Kyemon*

NATIONAL

Myanmar Parliamentary Union holds its 2nd meeting



Chairman of Myanmar Parliamentary Union Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Vice-Chairman of MPU Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann at Myanmar Parliamentary Union's 2nd meeting.—MNA

YANGON, 19 Nov—The Myanmar Parliamentary Union held its 2nd meeting at the meeting hall of Yangon Region Hluttaw Office on Ahlon Road, here, this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Myanmar Parliamentary Union Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Vice-Chairman of MPU Pyithu

Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Secretary of MPU Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, and MPU members Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and Speakers of Region/State Hluttaws.

Chairman of Myanmar Parliamentary Union Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint made an

opening speech. He said that the MPU was formed with the aim of building the capacity of Hluttaws to be systematic in functioning through cooperation between Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the state/region Hluttaws, of taking necessary steps in the flourishing of democracy society, of ensuring that it represents the entire people, of contributing to capacity building of the Hluttaws through sharing of region-wise experiences among the members, of ensuring

contacts, coordinations and exchanging views with parliaments and MPs abroad, of making Myanmar's progress known to the world through MPs abroad, of reviewing issues being watched by the people and international community and disclosing the perspectives of the parliaments over those issues, of ensuring cooperation with international organizations, government bodies and NGOs that share common, of sending Hluttaw

representatives to the meetings of International Parliamentary Union, ASEAN Interparliamentary Assembly and their committee meetings. The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw urged the participants to hold discussions on progress of the Hluttaws' works to be carried out by MPU and the resolutions of the first meeting of Region and State Hluttaws.

Afterwards, Vice-Chairman of MPU Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann said:

The role of Hluttaws is important to bring about the democracy system. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw have got appreciation and satisfaction from the international community. However, the people and international community have not yet satisfied with the works of regional and state Hluttaws which have emerged together with them.

Therefore, the institution for Myanmar Parliamentary Union is organized with the aim of assisting in the works of regional and state Hluttaw. The institution for Myanmar Parliamentary Union is organized in conformity with the law, and today meeting is held to seek suitable ways for assisting in the advices and reports of the regional and state Hluttaws. Meanwhile, the MPU will oversee limits and hardships aroused when tasks of Hluttaws were carried out. Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw will help the regional and state Hluttaws to settle out the obstacles and to get assistance for their needs in accordance with the law and rules, he said.

Afterwards, Secretary of MPU Vice Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Mya Nyein reported on progress of works which have been completed in accordance with the resolution of the first meeting of the MPU.

Afterwards, members of the MPU speakers of regional and state Hluttaws discussed matters related to procedures for becoming members of MPU including seeking approval from respective Hluttaws, establishing law assessment committee or commission for the Hluttaws, revoking, amending the existing laws and enacting new laws for the regional and state Hluttaws.

Afterwards, regarding the approval of the draft charter for the MPU, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee will review and put it forward to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Afterwards, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann gave remarks on the discussion of the speakers of the regional and state Hluttaws and Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw laid down the tasks to be carried out by the MPU. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MNA

Rakhine State Chief Minister presents cash to Rakhine Traditional Dance Troupe

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—After visiting traditional musical instruments' at Cultural Museum in Rakhine State on 17 November, Region Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin made a speech to the Rakhine Traditional Dance Troupe which will touch down Lin Cheng-Mekong Delta

Region Cultural Show held in Jinghong Town, Sipsongpanna Sub-region in Yunnan Province from 26 to 30 November and gave cash awards.

The Rakhine Traditional Dance Group will entertain their traditional dances in this show.

MNA

Quake-hit technological colleges in Sagaing Region under maintenance

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo yesterday morning looked into teaching, management and disciplinary measures and providing of teaching aids at Government Technological Institute in Kanbalu

in Sagaing Region.

The Union Minister supervised maintenance of school buildings which damaged due to earthquake at Government Technological College in Shwebo and Technological University in Sagaing.—MNA

Public Relations Training for government officials opened

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—The training course on Public Relations Training for Government Officials jointly conducted by Ministry of Information and UNESCO (Myanmar) commenced at the ministry at 9 am today.

Deputy Minister U Ye Htut delivered an opening address. Programme Manager Mr. Sardar Umar Alam extended greetings and posed for documentary photo together with those present at the ceremony.

Present on the occasion were officers-in-charge of contact persons from ministries, and the course will last up to 23rd November.

At the training course, UNESCO and local and foreign media scholars will

provide lectures on history of media, types of media and responsibilities for society, democracy, citizens, what do the media want? working with the media and future directions, and take-home tips.—MNA



Programme Manager Mr. Sardar Umar Alam poses for documentary photo with trainees of training course on Public Relations Training for Government Officials.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 20 November, 2012

Peace, stability and the rule of law

In fact Rakhine State has brighter opportunities to become a regional hub in the future as it is the western gate of Myanmar with two major towns — Sittway and Kyaukpyu — becoming deep seaports for international trade by the year 2013.

So, it is not unusual that China and India are interested in using these two deep seaports for their landlocked provinces in the west or states in the northeast. As Rakhine State is in the western part of Myanmar its prospects are high for trade links with countries in the West, Africa and Middle East, apart from the two Asian giants, the rest of ASEAN, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

So we must develop Rakhine State into a regional trade center. We have plans for turning Thandwe, Kyaukpyu and Sittway airports into facilities handling international flights. Moreover, gas pipelines and oil pipelines have been laid from Kyaukpyu to Kunming in China and when roads and railroads running in parallel with the pipelines are completed, Rakhine State will become the corridor serving as a major link between nations in the east and west of Myanmar as well as a gateway to the Union.

Rakhine State will enjoy many other advantages if it becomes the heart of regional trade. Large amounts of foreign direct investment will flow into it together with capital from other places of the Union for new industrial and business establishments thereby bringing rapid economic growth, which is the foundation of well rounded progress in health, education, labour and many other social fields.

And if all these advantages become a reality, Rakhine State will become one of the most prosperous areas of the Union, with locals enjoying higher living and social standards.

However, the crucial requirements in realizing all these advantages are no other than peace, stability and the rule of law.

NATIONAL

US President Mr Barack Obama concludes visit



President of the United States of America Mr Barack Obama visits Shwedagon Pagoda.—MNA

YANGON, 19 Nov— President of the United States of America Mr Barack Obama, accompanied by US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton, Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Myint

and officials, arrived at Shwedagon Pagoda at 11.40 am today.

The US President was welcomed by members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees. The US President offered flowers and water to the Buddha image and

visited there.

At 12.20 pm, the US President met Chairperson of the Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Stability and Peace Committee Chairperson of the National League for Democracy Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at her residence on

University Avenue.

At 2.40 pm, the US President delivered a speech at the meeting with public-based organizations, political parties, social organizations, faculty members of the university and people at the convocation hall of Yangon University. On arrival at Yangon International Airport at 3.25 pm, the US President took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe ushered the US President in the aircraft. The President was bade farewell by Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Myint, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs Mayor U Hla Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to the US U Than Swe, US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell and officials.

US President Mr Barack Obama left here at 3.35 pm.—MNA

Cardiac Ultrasound Machine donated

YANGON, 19 Nov—After delivering a thankful speech to all donors, U Maung Myint, Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security returned certificate of honour to Managing Director U Kyaw Htoo Aung of Tunthit Oo Co., Ltd who donated the Cardiac Ultrasound Machine to Workers' Hospital, here, yesterday morning.

The donor expressed his delight for contributing the machine.

The Union Minister inspected the patient wards, operation theatres and the outpatient department of the hospital.

MNA

Donations made for earthquake-hit victims in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—A donation ceremony for resettlement of the earthquake-hit victims in Mandalay Region took place at the region government's office on 15 November

morning.

At the ceremony, Chairman of Yunnan Buddhist Temple (80th Street) U Kyaw Sein and CEC members presented K 3 million donated by Yunnan Buddhist Temple family, U Phyu Win and CEC members of Fujin Buddhist Temple, K 1.5 million donated by Fujin Buddhist Temple family, Vice-Chairman and CEC members of Guangdong Buddhist Temple, K 1 million donated by Guangdong Buddhist Temple family, Vice-Chairman of Ethnic Buddhist Temple U Than Htaik and CEC members, K 5,000,00 donated by Ethnic Buddhist Temple family, through Mandalay Region ministers U Kyaw Hsan, Dr Win Hlaing and Dr Myint Kyu.—MNA

conference may register at the UMFCCI, No.29, Minye Kyawswa Road, Lanmadaw Township, not later than February 22, 2013.

NLM

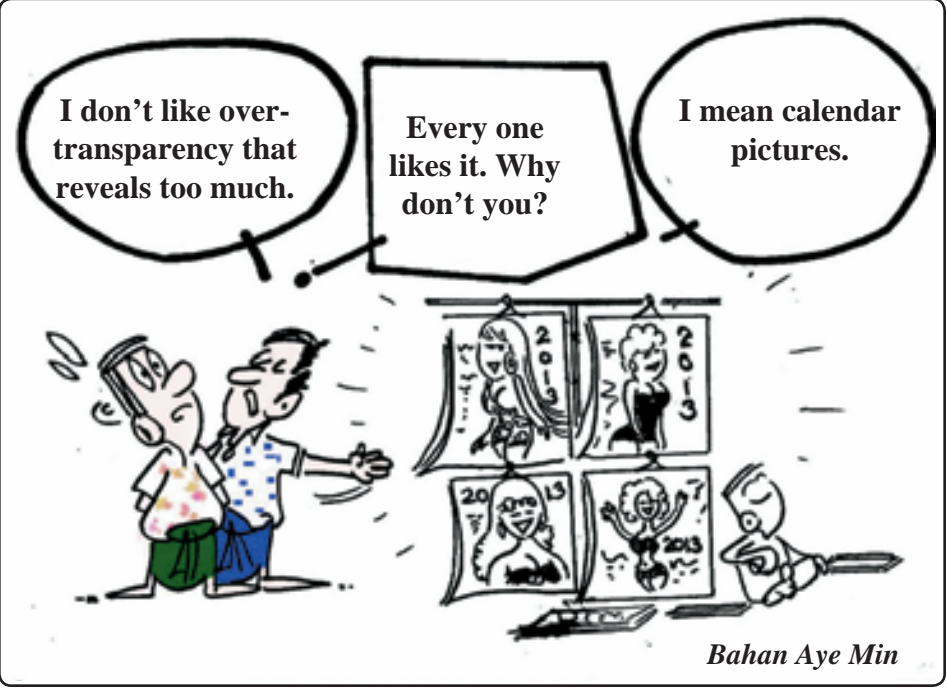
US-Myanmar Trade and Investment Relations: the Path forward on 25 Feb

YANGON, 19 Nov— In response to these remarkable political and economic changes, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the US Chamber of Commerce will organize a conference on "US-Myanmar Trade and Investment Relations: The Path Forward," at the UMFCCI here on Monday, February 25, 2013.

US companies now have much greater opportunity to invest and develop business relationships in Myanmar, and contribute to Myanmar's economic growth and

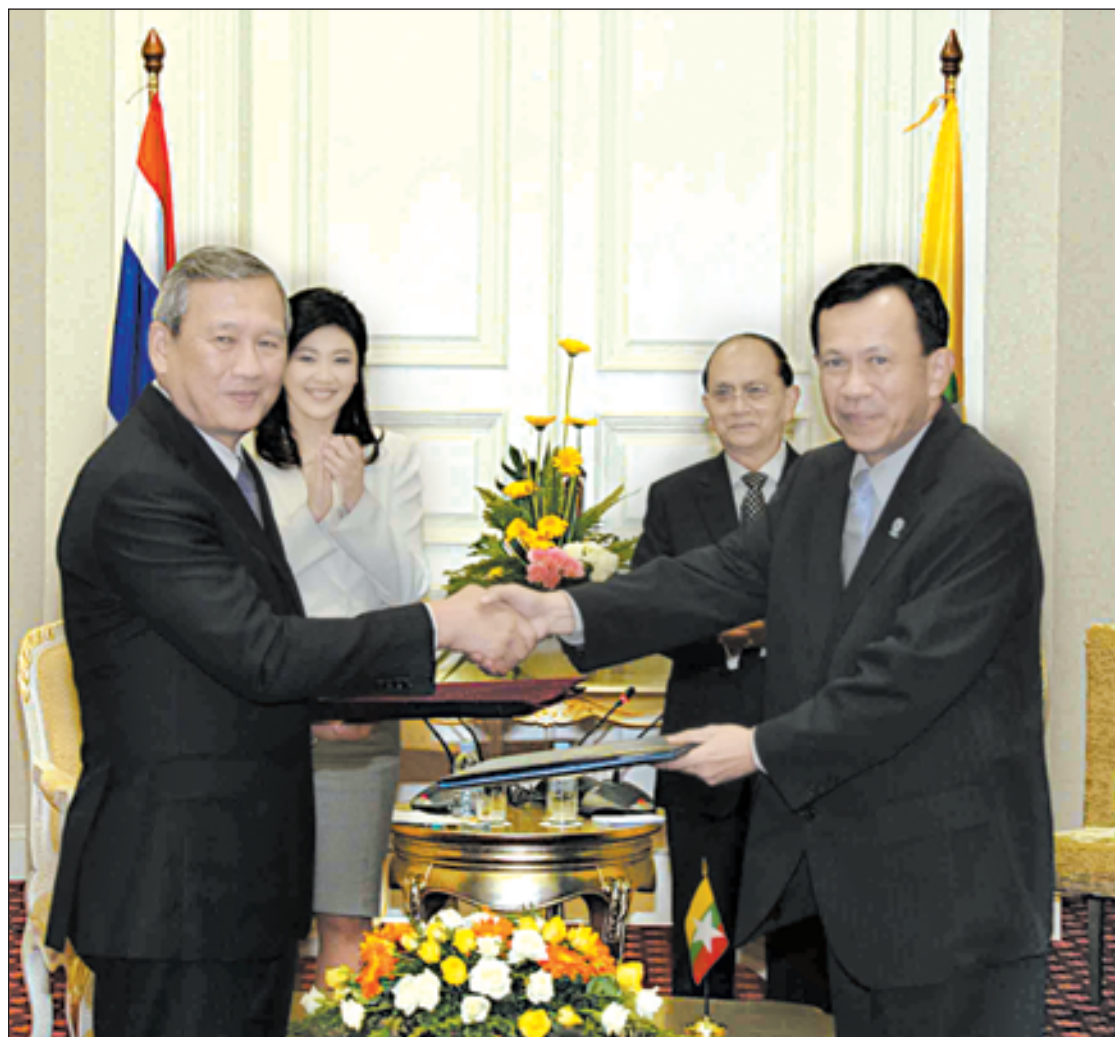
development.

The conference will focus on the topics: the US-Myanmar Trade and Investment Relationship: Finding the Way Forward; Creating an Attractive Investment Environment; Developing Myanmar's Energy Resources; Information Technology: Propelling Economic Growth; Building a Viable Financial Sector; Corporate Social Responsibility: benefitting the Community and Integrating Myanmar into the ASEAN, Asian, and Global Economy. Those wishing to attend the



Bahan Aye Min

President U Thein Sein receives Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra



President U Thein Sein attends ceremony to exchange notes of Dawei Special Economic Zone joint declaration between Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and the Thai Minister at the Prime Minister Office.
MNA

power plant, water supply, water treatment system, communications, high speed train in Dawei Special Economic Zone and in related project area, and in the process, invitation will be extended to those capable of implementing the project and international investors for better transport and economic development in the region.

After the meeting, Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and the Thai Minister at the Prime Minister Office exchanged Dawei Special Economic Zone joint declaration.

Afterwards, the Thai Prime Minister presented the photo of gas turbines to be constructed at Dawei Special Economic Zone project to President U Thein Sein.

MNA

Myanma Tatmadaw goodwill delegation arrives back from China

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—Myanmar Tatmadaw goodwill delegation led by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win arrived back Yangon by flight this evening after paying a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China.

Airport by Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Hsan Oo, Ayeyawady Navel Headquarters Commodore Maung Oo Lwin, Mingaladon Air Base Commander Brig-Gen Thein Naing and senior officers, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials from military attachés office.

They were welcomed at Yangon International

MNA

Cash and kind donated to quake victims

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—Wellwishers donated cash, foodstuffs and clothes for earthquake victims of Mandalay and Sagaing Regions at the Department of Relief and Resettlement (Head Office) and the office

of the Head of Yangon Region DRR.

Wellwishers donated cash, clothes and bags of rice for the quake victims to officials on 12, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 November.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—President U Thein Sein who is currently in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, met with Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra at the Call Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh at 3.45 pm today.

At the meeting, the two leaders exchanged views on development of Dawei

Special Economic Zone and boosting mutual cooperation, and reached an agreement on implementation of those projects by the two countries.

The two leaders were very pleased with achievements came out from the first joint committee meeting for development of Dawei Special Economic Zone held

on 7 November in Bangkok. The joint committee assigned duties to the respective sub-committees to complete the prioritized projects in 2015 and ensure sooner completion of tasks in the relevant sectors. The joint committee meeting will be held again in December 2012.

The two sides have agreed to invite the cooperation of all those who are interested in the project and those who are capable of implementing the project. In the joint declaration, Thailand will implement regional development tasks including roads, deep sea port, industrial zone,

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Information Team Press Release No. 2/2012 November 18, 2012

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, as part of its continuing efforts to meet its international obligations, protect and promote human dignity, and strengthen democratic governance for its peoples, aspires to the following:

Human Rights

The Government of Myanmar will allow the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to resume prisoner visits in coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs. ICRC has recommenced operations in Myanmar since 2011, installing sewage systems, solar power and access to groundwater in many of the country's prisons. Additional access will be granted to assess the welfare and living conditions of the prisoners and to facilitate medical treatment.

The Government of Myanmar will extend an invitation to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to establish an office in Myanmar and begin negotiations on a memorandum of understanding that would establish terms of reference.

The Government of Myanmar has already eliminated a "blacklist" of persons barred from entering or leaving the country based on their suspected political activity. The Government of Myanmar has also established a point of contact in the Office of the President to provide

timely response to citizens and foreigners inquiring about their status.

Prisoner Releases

The Government of Myanmar will initiate a process between the Ministry of Home Affairs and interested parties to devise a transparent mechanism to review remaining prisoner cases of concern by the end of December 2012. Criteria and guidelines for assessing the criminality of politically concerned cases will be identified and discussed in line with international standards and practice.

Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation

In addition to existing ceasefires with ten major ethnic armed groups, the Government of Myanmar will continue to pursue a durable ceasefire in Kachin State and other areas to deescalate violent conflicts. The government will pursue sustainable political solutions that address efficient governance and rights of ethnic nationalities in Myanmar.

In Rakhine State, as pledged in President U Thein Sein's 11 November 2012 letter to the UN Secretary General, the Government will take decisive action to prevent violent attacks against civilians; it will hold accountable the perpetrators of such attacks; it will work with the international community to meet the humanitarian needs of the people; and it will address contentious political dimensions, ranging from resettlement of displaced populations to granting of citizenship.

The Government of Myanmar will expedite its negotiations with the ICRC and other international humanitarian organizations for broader access to conflict affected areas.

Non-Proliferation

The Government of Myanmar will sign Additional Protocol to IAEA's Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements

and give effect to the Modified standardized text of the Small Quantities Protocol. President U Thein Sein has approved the measure, which will now be forwarded to the parliament for final approval. Myanmar has been a member of the IAEA since 1957, signing the Non-proliferation Treaty in December 1992, the Small Quantities Protocol in 1995, the Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty, and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1996.

As a member of the United Nations, the Government of Myanmar is committed to abiding with UN Security Council Resolution 1874.

Open Government Partnership

The Government of Myanmar announces its intention to become a full member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) by the end of 2016. The Government of Myanmar strives to become a more open and accountable government in accordance with OGP's core principles of transparency; civic engagement; anti-corruption; and using technology and innovation to make government more open, effective and accountable.

Anti-Trafficking

The Government of Myanmar agrees to the "US-Myanmar Joint Plan on Trafficking in Persons" including implementing the ILO Action Plan on Forced Labor and the New Wards and Village Tracts Administration Act, which strengthen the number of criminal investigations and prosecutions of perpetrators of trafficking. The Government of Myanmar welcomes the provision of enhanced technical assistance in this area from the United States Government.

(This is the official translation of the Press Release issued by the Information Team.)

Dramatic transition began over last year and a half Desire for change meets agenda for reform under the leadership of President U Thein Sein US President Barack Obama gives speech at Yangon University



YANGON, 19 Nov—The visiting President of the United States of America Mr. Barack Obama who was here to pay a working visit at the invitation of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein gave a speech to community-based associations, political parties, social organizations, faculty members and the people at the Convocation Hall of Yangon University, here, at 2.40 pm today.

The US President said that he came here because of his respect for the Yangon University and America's

*US President
Mr. Barack Obama
delivering address at
Convocation Hall of
Yangon University.*

MNA

belief in human dignity; that the two countries became strangers over the last several decades; that now he could tell Myanmar people that they always remained hopeful about the people of that country; that Myanmar people gave them hope and they bore witness to the courage of these people; that they learned of ordinary people who organized relief teams to respond to a cyclone and they heard the voices of hip hop artists projecting the sound of freedom.

He continued that when he took office as president, he sent a message in which he said he would extend a hand if they are willing to unclench their fist to those governments who ruled by

fear. Over the last year and a half, a dramatic transition had begun and the desire for change had been met by an agenda for reform under the leadership of President U Thein Sein, he said.

A civilian led the government and a parliament was asserting itself. The National League for Democracy stood in an election and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was a Member of Parliament. Hundreds of political prisoners of conscience had been released and forced labor had been banned. Preliminary ceasefires had been reached with ethnic armies and new laws allowed for a more open economy.

He continued that he came here to keep his promise and extend the hand of friendship. Sanctions had been eased and they would help rebuild an economy that could offer opportunities for the people. The flickers of progress must not be extinguished and it must be strengthened and it must become the shining North Star for all the entire people

of the nation.

He said that if Myanmar took these steps, she could draw on her progress. Instead of being ignored, citizens who protested the construction of Myitson dam project were heard. Instead of being outlawed, political parties had been allowed to participate.

He vowed to give their assistance to empower civil society, to military to promote professionalism and human rights and take steps towards democracy with economic development.

He said he had confidence that as Myanmar people could do that they could draw on this diversity as a strength and not a weakness.

He said though United States was a nation of diversity, they were one nation and they were one people and that truth had, time and again, made their union stronger. He said he deeply believed that Myanmar could be able to transcend its differences.

MNA

Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong welcomed

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—A goodwill delegation led by Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong of Royal Thai Air Force and wife arrived here by air this morning. They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and officials.

On arrival at Zeyathiri Beikman, the Thai Air Chief Marshal was cordially greeted by Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein. Next, the Thai Air Chief Marshal took the salute of the Guard of Honour and inspected it.

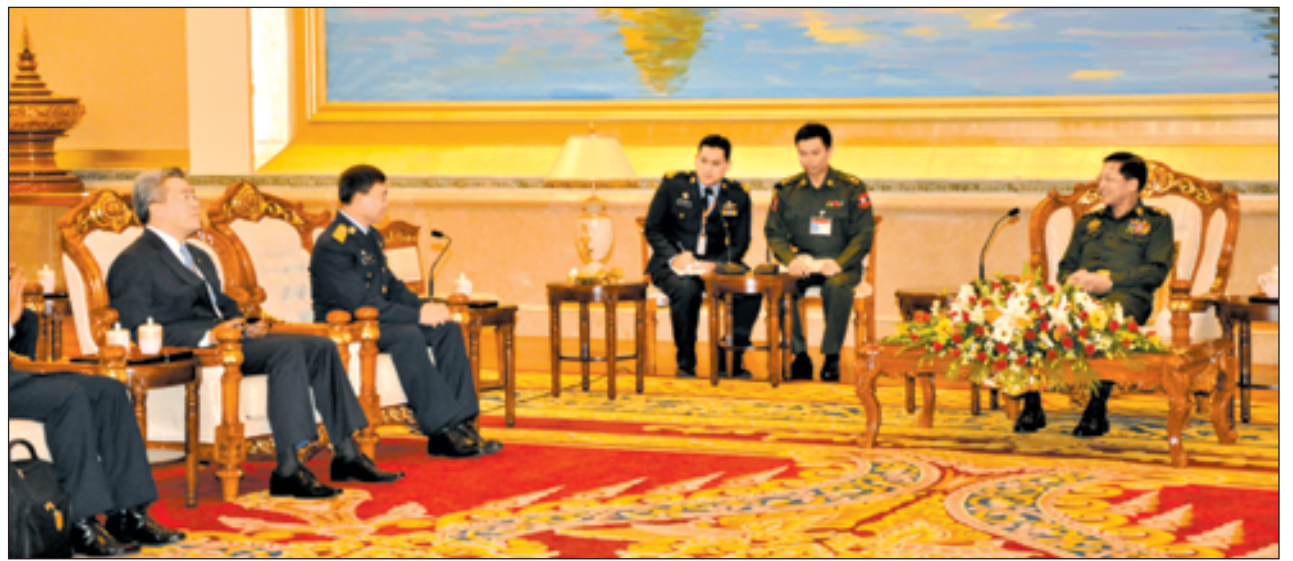
The Thai Air Chief Marshal introduced senior

officers of the Royal Thai Air Force, Thai Ambassador Mr Pisanu Suvanajata, Thai Air Force Attache Group Captain Prakrit Kantawong to General Myat Hein. The General also introduced Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Commander of Toungoo Airbase Brig-Gen Than Lwin and senior military officers.

After the welcoming ceremony, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) received the Thai Air Chief Marshal at Zeyathiri Beikman.

Later, they exchanged gifts and the Thai Air Chief Marshal signed the visitors' book.—MNA

Holding meetings between Heads of States leads to making good relationships stronger and stronger



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Air Force Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Royal Thai Air Force Commander-in-Chief Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, today.

During the meeting, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said that it is obvious that Myanmar Tatmadaw has widely cooperated with those of ASEAN member countries in ASEAN community, especially, with armed forces of its neighbouring countries. At present, stability and peace could be seen at the borders between

Myanmar and Thailand thanks to collaborative efforts between the two countries. Besides, very often holding meetings between the heads of the two States leads to making good relationships stronger and stronger. Besides holding meetings between the Heads, it needs to hold meetings between all levels to exchange views on experiences, and to more implement cooperation tasks between the two countries.

Also present at the call were Chief of General Staff (Army/Navy/Air)

General Hla Htay Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, and senior military officers. The Royal Thai Air Force Commander-in-Chief Air Chief Marshal was accompanied by officials from Royal Thai Air Force, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Pisanu Suvanajata, and Thai Military Attaché Group Captain Prakrit Kantawong.

MNA



General Myat Hein and Thai Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong pose for documentary photo.—MNA

REGIONAL

Japan PM meets ASEAN leaders to boost economic, security ties

Japan

PHNOM PENH, 19 Nov—Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda attended a meeting on Monday with leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Cambodia, during which they are expected to pledge to strengthen economic and security ties. Noda is set to promise that he will actively help ASEAN achieve its goal of creating an economic community by 2015, aiming to capitalize on growth in the Asia-Pacific region to further develop Japan's export-reliant economy, Japanese officials said.



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda (C) is greeted after arriving at the international airport in Phnom Penh on 18 Nov, 2012.—KYODO NEWS

In Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh, the leaders plan to agree to step up their efforts to create a region-wide free trade framework with 10 ASEAN members and its six regional partners — Japan, China, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand — called the Regional Comprehensive Economic

Partnership. On the security front, they are likely to reaffirm their friendship and strategic partnership to maintain regional peace and stability in line with a joint declaration adopted in Bali, Indonesia, last year, they said. Other than maritime

issues, Japan and the ASEAN members are expected to vow to strengthen disaster management cooperation, especially since several ASEAN nations are vulnerable to natural disasters such as typhoons and floods.

Kyodo News

Wen says China-Cambodia relations good example of friendly neighbouring ties

China



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (L) shakes hands with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 18 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

PHNOM PENH, 19 Nov—Visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here on Sunday that the relationship

between China and Cambodia has set a good example of friendly ties between neighbouring countries. Wen

made the remarks during a meeting with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen.

The comprehensive strategic partnership of cooperation between China and Cambodia has witnessed rapid development in recent years, Wen said. The two sides have treated each other with respect, mutual trust and strongly supported each other over issues bearing each other's core interests, Wen said.

China and Cambodia have also strengthened coordination in regional affairs and safeguarded common interests, which not only benefits the two peoples but also contributes to regional peace, development and prosperity, Wen said.

Hun Sen noted that China has rendered Cambodia firm support and

Philippine police caution credit card owners against fraud syndicates

Philippines

MANILA, 19 Nov—Philippine authorities warned on Monday credit card owners of the resurgence of activities of credit fraud syndicates as the Christmas season nears.

Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) Anti-Fraud and Commercial Crime Division (AFCCD) chief Benjamin Acorda said several groups engaged in credit card fraud that are listed in the watch list of the CIDG and the Credit Card Association of the Philippines (CCAP) have become active again in Metro Manila and other nearby provinces.

He specifically warned credit card owners of the modus operandi of credit card fraud syndicates that use skimming access devices which they have acquired easily because they are being sold in the internet.

“These devices, which they have distributed to

some unscrupulous cashiers in different malls, gasoline stations and supermarkets, even installed in ATM machines, are capable of stealing account information of unsuspecting credit card owners, which are then used to clone credit cards,” Acorda said.

He described the skimming access device as small and handy that some unsuspecting victims barely notice that their card is swiped into it by cashiers who are in cahoots with the

syndicate.

Acorda also cautioned the public in filling up information forms via the internet when doing online purchase using their credit cards and from photo copying their credit card, as it can be used to clone their cards.

Since January this year, the CIDG AFCCD has arrested eight persons in entrapment operations and has filed five anti-fraud charges against the suspects.

Xinhua



A snow clearer works on a road in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 19 Nov, 2012. The local meteorological observatory issued a blue warning for further snowstorms on Monday.

XINHUA

China uncovers luxury bag fakery, arrests 73

China

BEIJING, 19 Nov—Chinese police, working with US law enforcers, uncovered a major transnational criminal case of manufacturing and exporting fake international brands and arrested 73 suspects.

The police has confiscated over 20,000 counterfeit bags branded as Louis Vuitton, Hermes or Coach, closed 37 illegal sites for the production and sale of such bags, and found that the suspects have manufactured and sold more than 960,000 such fake bags, the Ministry of Public Security said in a statement on Sunday.

The police also seized 17 sets of equipments for manufacturers and 91 bank cards and accounts used for receiving and transferring

illegal gains, according to the statement.

Local police in south China's Guangdong Province found in January that a suspect surnamed Qian and some others were responsible for a huge production of fake brands and exports to foreign countries.

The ministry soon exchanged the information with the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and proposed a joint investigation.

Chinese police later found that the suspects were running illegal sites from provinces such as Guangdong, Fujian and Anhui. In May, Qian was arrested before he was about to export another batch of counterfeit goods.—Xinhua

New Zealand PM leaves for East Asia Summit in Cambodia

Cambodia

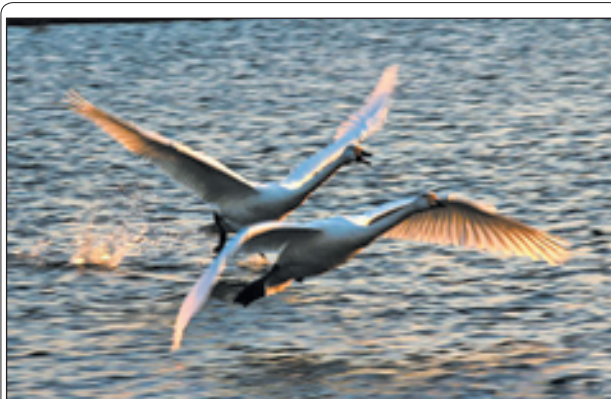
WELLINGTON, 19 Nov—New Zealand Prime Minister John Key left on Monday morning for Cambodia to attend the East Asia Summit followed by a visit to Myanmar. Key will be involved in the launch of negotiations for a free trade partnership involving several nations at this week's East Asia Summit in Cambodia.

John Key will join leaders from 10 southeast Asian countries, as well as Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, and new members Russia and the

United States, at the meeting in Phnom Penh.

Key said in a statement that negotiations will begin toward a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership involving the 10 ASEAN countries and their six free trade agreement partners.

He said the grouping of countries is very important to New Zealand, but there is some concern about the recent growth of the Asian region.—Xinhua



Whooper swans fly from a lake at Rongcheng National Nature Reserve in Rongcheng, east China's Shandong Province, on 18 Nov, 2012. Thousands of swans chose to get through winter at the reserve.—XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BIENDONG NAVIGATOR VOY NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG NAVIGATOR VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (24)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (24) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: NYK LINE**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIAN NAGA VOY NO (19)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIANNAGA VOY NO (19) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN-CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (477)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (477) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (320)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (320) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OSSIAN VOY NO (12025)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OSSIAN VOY NO (12025) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S T.S LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN HUA JIANG VOY NO (167)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN HUA JIANG VOY NO (167) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



French gendarmes block access to a road to La Combe d'Ire in Chevaline near Annecy, southeastern France, on 7 Sept, 2012 after Saad al-Hilli, an Iraqi-born British engineer, was found shot dead with his wife and mother-in-law in their BMW car in a car on a road in the Alps.— REUTERS

For Quick Sale

It includes an office Building, a building for labour with full access to power and water. Over '500' species of edible plants, trees and 4 Bangalows with 10 rooms are on it also. It is a nearly 5 acre wide compound on the Point Beach in sittway. Very suitable for Hotel-Construction.

Contact - U Kyaw Thein
09-5680627
043-21419

Alps murder probe widens to maniacs and gun users

LONDON, 19 Nov— French police investigating a quadruple murder on a remote Alpine road two months ago have widened their probe to gun users and mentally disturbed people in the region after failing to find a motive for the killing, the BBC reported on Saturday.

Officers plan to investigate hundreds of people fitting the profile over the unexplained shooting of three members of a British family and a French cyclist near the village of Chevaline, close to the Swiss and Italian borders.

Investigators were looking for someone "who puts no value on human life, so someone who has doubtless killed before," French prosecutor Eric

Maillaud told the BBC, but cast doubt on the theory that the murderer was a professional assassin.

Saad al-Hilli, an Iraqi-born British engineer, was found shot dead with his wife and mother-in-law in their BMW car on a remote mountain road near the village of Chevaline, with the body of a cyclist, Sylvain Mollier, discovered nearby.

They were killed in what appeared to be execution-style murders, with at least two hits to the head from a semi-automatic pistol. "We are looking at all mentally unbalanced people, very violent or known to be capable of violence, using weapons," Maillaud said, in comments translated by an interpreter.

Reuters

Latin America looks to Europe for drug fighting models

CADIZ, 19 Nov— Latin American countries are turning to Europe for lessons on fighting narcotics abuse after souring on the prohibition-style approach of the violent and costly US-led war on drugs.

Until recently, most Latin American countries had zero-tolerance rules on drugs inspired by the United States.

But now countries from Brazil to Guatemala are exploring relaxing penalties for personal use of narcotics, following examples such as Spain and Portugal that have channelled resources to prevention rather than clogging jails.

Latin America is the top world producer of cocaine and marijuana, feeding the huge demand in the United States and Europe. Domestic drug use has risen and drug gang violence has caused carnage for decades from the Mexican-US border to the slums of Brazil.

On Thursday, Uruguay's Congress moved a step

closer to putting the state in charge of distributing legal marijuana. On the same day a leftist lawmaker in Mexico presented a bill to legalise production, sale and use of marijuana.

While the Mexican bill is unlikely to pass, it reflects growing debate over how to fight drug use in a country where 60,000 people have died since 2006 in turf battles between drug traffickers and clashes between cartels and security forces. Even top world cocaine producer Colombia, a stalwart US partner in drug crop eradication campaigns and with one of the toughest anti-drug laws in Latin America, is hinting at change.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said on Thursday it was worth exploring the Portuguese model, one of the most liberal drug policies in the world.

"The experience that you have had with drug consumption policies is very interesting to us.

Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

One Direction top British single and album charts



Members of boy band One Direction pose at the BBC's Radio One studio to mark their topping the British singles and album charts on 18 November, 2012, in this handout publicity photo. REUTERS

LONDON, 19 Nov—Boy band One Direction topped Britain's singles and album charts on Sunday, outselling new releases from rock veterans Rod Stewart and the Rolling Stones, the Official Charts Company said. The English-Irish quintet shot to number one in the album charts with "Take Me Home", with one of its tracks, "Little Things", also

taking first place in the singles rankings. Singer Rod Stewart had to settle for number two for his new collection of seasonal classics "Merry Christmas Baby", while the Rolling Stones were third with their 50th anniversary compilation "GRRR!". Also new in the album lists were British tenor

Alfie Boe at number six with "Storyteller", while American punk band Green Day entered in tenth place with "¡Dos!". American singer Bruno Mars took second place in the singles charts with "Locked Out Of Heaven", just ahead of "DNA" at number three from British girl group Little Mix. Reuters

I'm not jobless on the film front: Priyanka Chopra

MUMBAI, 19 Nov—Though busy with her singing, actress turned singer Priyanka has four films on hand. Priyanka Chopra is busy juggling her film and music career. However the general perception is that the actress is jobless on her film front. Not wanting anything to do with these uncalled for speculations, PC is infact busy with four films.



Says Priyanka, "I only know what the truth is. Abhi isse jyaada mein kaam bhi nahi kar sakti. I am working on two careers simultaneously as singing is a full-time job. I have Krrish, which is releasing next Diwali and I start Zanjeer now. Then I will be in LA to promote my song and then next year I start Milan Talkies and then Gunday." Priyanka is also extremely happy that she has finally managed to being considered a good actress. She says, "That's what people are saying. For me, I always like to do a film every year, which is for the actor in me. It is a conscious effort of picking up films that balance along with the commercial films that I do. That's why you will see a Kaminey, 7 Khoon Maaf, Fashion, What's Your Rashee? or Aitraaz in my resume. If you see Kaminey, I only had about eight scenes in the entire film but it was a powerful part." About being part of the remakes of Amitabh Bachchan's films, she says, "I am Mr Bachchan's brand ambassador and yeh mere contract mein hona chahiye. Now I can't be Vijay so I am being his heroine in any film. But if given a chance I would like to play Anthony in the remake of Amar Akbar Anthony and the film has to be made with three girls!"—PTI

Bieber sweeps American Music Awards with big wins

LOS ANGELES, 19 Nov—Canadian pop star Justin Bieber swept the American Music Awards on Sunday, topping strong competition from Rihanna and Nicki Minaj, and sending newcomers British boybands One Direction and The Wanted home empty-handed.



Justin Bieber accepts the award for favorite pop rock album for "Believe" at the 40th American Music Awards in Los Angeles, California, on 18 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

Bieber, 18, won all three categories in which he was nominated, including the night's biggest award, artist of the year, over Rihanna, Katy Perry, Maroon 5 and Drake.

"This is for all the haters who thought that maybe I was just here for one or two years, but I feel like I am going to be here for a very long time," Bieber said on stage, dedicating his first win of the night to his mother, Pattie Mallette, who accompanied him after his widely reported split from girlfriend Selena Gomez.

"It's hard growing up with everything going on,

with everyone watching me. I wanted to say that as long as you guys keep believing in me, I want to always make you proud," Bieber said at the end of the night.

Bieber, who also won favourite pop/rock male artist and favourite pop/rock album for "Believe," took to a bare stage to sing an acoustic stripped-down version of his latest single

"As Long As You Love Me" before livening up the show with Nicki Minaj for "Beauty and a Beat."

The American Music Award nominees and winners are voted online by fans, and the awards are handed out during a live three-hour broadcast featuring performances by artists.

R&B singer Rihanna, 24, and rapper Minaj, 29, led the nominees going into

Sunday's awards with four apiece.

Minaj won favourite rap/hip hop artist and rap/hip hop album of the year for "Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded." The singer, known for her extravagant on-stage performances, sang her latest hit "Freedom" in a winter wonderland-themed set.

Rihanna came away with one win. She couldn't make the show because she is in Berlin, midway through a seven-day tour across seven cities around the world promoting her upcoming "Unapologetic" album. Canadian pop singer Carly Rae Jepsen, 26, picked up the coveted new artist-of-the-year award over One Direction, Australian artist Gotye, indie-pop band fun. and rapper J Cole. She performed her hit "Call Me Maybe." "I am floored," the singer said, thanking Bieber along with her fans in her acceptance speech.—Reuters

Charlie Chaplin's bowler hat and cane fetch over \$60,000 at auction

NEW YORK, 19 Nov—One of Charlie Chaplin's bowler hats and a cane, the staple of Hollywood silent-era comedy, were auctioned for \$62,500 (39,340.34 pounds) on Sunday, said auction house Bonhams.

Chaplin's hat and cane, which fetched more than the initial estimate of \$40,000-60,000, are synonymous with his "Little Tramp" character in films such as "City Lights" and "Modern Times."

Bonhams memorabilia specialist Lucy Carr said earlier it is unknown how many of Chaplin's bowlers and canes still exist. Those auctioned on Sunday are from a private collection but have a direct link to Chaplin, Carr said.

The waddling and

bumbling "Little Tramp" character propelled Chaplin to global fame. The character, Hollywood legend says was created by accident on a rainy day at Keystone Studios, first appeared in 1914's "Kid Auto Races at Venice" and lastly in 1936's "Modern Times."

Chaplin's hat and cane are the highlights of an auction of popular culture artifacts that is still in progress. Other items include a handwritten letter from John Lennon in which the Beatle sketched himself and wife Yoko Ono nude.

There is also an archive of Marilyn Monroe photographs, an early Charles Schulz "Peanuts" comic strip, and a wicker chair from Rick's Cafe in "Casablanca."—Reuters



Charlie Chaplin's signature bowler hat from numerous productions such as "The Tramp" is pictured at a preview of actress Debbie Reynolds' Hollywood costume and prop collection in Beverly Hills on 6 June, 2011. REUTERS

"Breaking Dawn - Part 2" crowns as top grosser in North America box office

LOS ANGELES, 19 Nov—"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2" has expectantly struck a chord with audience in North America, as it debuted for a weekend of 141.3 million dollar worth of tickets, the eighth biggest premiere in all time in Hollywood.

The final teenager-skewing vampire-and-werewolf romantic fan-

tasy drama, released by Summit Entertainment and hit the theaters in the United States and Canada on Friday, ranked in tenth if ticket price inflation is taken into account. Although the projected statistics is a bit lower than Saturday's estimate of 162.2 million dollars, the performance is anyway better than the 138.12 million dollar debut of "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn

- Part 1" which opened in July 2011. However, it still paled comparing with the 142.84 million dollar premiere of 2009's "The Twilight Saga: New Moon."

The finale installment, which also is the fifth film of the wildly popular vampire series, won the resounding victory with the help of lingering appeal of the romance, the good press and the rave reviews in

the leadup to its premiere. In the swan-song drama, Kristen Stewart plays Bella who, as Mrs. Edward Cullen, is adjusting to her new life as both a mother and a vampire. Mrs. Cullen and her husband (played by Robert Pattinson) round up a crew of sympathetic vampires and werewolves to side with the family when malevolent Volturi go after their child.—Xinhua

Jimenez proves age no factor in Hong Kong victory

Golf

Miguel Angel Jimenez of Spain poses with his trophy and a cigar after winning the Hong Kong Open golf tournament on 18 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS



FANLING, (Hong Kong) 19 Nov—Miguel Angel Jimenez fired a final round five-under 65 to become the oldest player to record a European Tour victory with a one-stroke triumph at the Hong Kong Open on Sunday.

The Spaniard completed the tournament on 15 under par to edge out Sweden's Fredrik Andersson Hed, who had earlier shot a 64, and secure a hat-trick of Hong Kong titles at the age of 48 years and 318 days.

Jimenez is 284 days older than Irishman Des Smyth was when he won the 2001 Madeira Islands Open and his triumph comes a

week after Italy's Matteo Manassero became the first teenager to claim a hat-trick of European Tour titles at the Singapore Open.

After also winning the Hong Kong title in 2005 and 2008, Jimenez saw off the challenge of joint-overnight leader Michael Campbell when the New Zealander fired a disappointing two-over 72 to slip down into a tie for eighth.

As Jimenez gleefully accepted the Hong Kong Trophy for a third time, he refused to rule out adding further victories to his 19 European Tour triumphs.

"I hope it's not the last one," he said at the victory

ceremony. "The way I am playing and handle myself I can be fit to win another one." Jimenez admitted the Hong Kong Golf Club, with its tree-lined fairways, was totally suited to his shot-shaping golf game and he made only two bogeys in four rounds.

"Distance does not matter here," he said. "I controlled the ball well and gave myself many chances for birdie which you have to do here." Andersson Hed chased Jimenez all the way to the wire with two runs of three birdies on the trot as he ended the tournament with an impressive six-under-par final round.

However, there was disappointment for Campbell, who had gone into the final round looking to end a winless streak stretching back to 2005 when he won the US Open and World Match Play Championship.

Reuters

Czechs lift Davis Cup with victory over Spain

Tennis



Czech Republic's team celebrates with the Davis Cup trophy after they defeated Spain in the final match in Prague on 18 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

PRAGUE, 19 Nov—The Czech Republic beat holders Spain 3-2 to win the Davis Cup for the first time as an independent nation when Radek Stepanek overcame Nicolas Almagro in four tough sets before a raucous home crowd on Sunday.

Stepanek, who jumped over the net and triumphantly waved his arms to acknowledge the 14,580 fans packed into the arena, was hugged by team mates before going to his wife with tears rolling down his cheeks after clinching victory in the final

rubber. His 6-4, 7-6, 3-6, 6-3 win over Almagro meant the Czechs reclaimed the Davis Cup 32 years after Czechoslovakia won the trophy led by Ivan Lendl, who proudly watched this year's final at the 02 arena with his former team mates.

It also made the Czech Republic the first country to win the Davis Cup and Fed Cup team trophies for men and women respectively and the mixed Hopman Cup event in one year. "I was dreaming about it my whole life and now we're standing

here as Davis Cup champions, it's amazing," said Stepanek after clinching the 100th Davis Cup final.

His success delighted a home crowd that had earlier been silenced when Spain's world number five David Ferrer cruised to a 6-2, 6-3, 7-5 win over Tomas Berdych to level the final at 2-2 after the Czechs won a four-set doubles rubber on Saturday.

Ferrer's victory over sixth-ranked Berdych put Spain, who have dominated the event in recent seasons but were without injured former world number one Rafa Nadal, back in the hunt for a fourth Davis Cup crown in five years and sixth overall. The two Czech players have carried the team since 2007 but lost the only other time the country has appeared in the final — a 5-0 drubbing by Spain in 2009 on the clay courts of Barcelona.

Reuters

China's Zheng Zhi nominated for 2012 AFC Player of the Year

Soccer

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 Nov—Chinese national football team skipper Zheng Zhi has been nominated for the 2012 AFC Player of the Year award, competing for the top individual award of Asian footballer with the other four contenders.

The 32-year-old midfielder has brought his Guangzhou Evergrande to the quarterfinal of this year's AFC Champions League while defending the league title in China. He is also the key player of the Chinese national team coached by Spaniard Jose Antonio Camacho.

Zheng signed with Guangzhou Evergrande in 2010 after spells in former English Premier League team Charlton Athletic and Scottish giants Celtic.



Chinese national football team skipper Zheng Zhi

Iran national team centre-back Mohsen Bengar.

The Japanese national team which won silver in London Olympics has contributed all

three nominees of the 2012 AFC Women's Player of the Year, including the captain and 2011 FIFA Women's World Player of the Year Homare Sawa, Aya Miyama, who won the 2011 AFC Women Player of the Year,

and their teammate Yuki Ogimi. English Premier League team Fulham's Australian goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer, Manchester United's Japanese player Shinji Kagawa and Inter Milan's defender Yuto Nagatomo were nominated for the newly launched AFC Asian International Player of the Year.

Kagawa was one of the top contenders for last year's AFC player of the year, but the award eventually went to Server Djeparov of Uzbekistan as it would be only awarded to those present at the AFC Annual Awards gala. Meanwhile, Brazilian players have dominated the AFC Foreign Player of the Year award, which is also newly launched this year.

Xinhua



McLaren Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain gestures next to Red Bull Formula One driver Sebastian Vettel (L) of Germany, Ferrari Formula One driver Fernando Alonso (R) of Spain and Texas Governor Rick Perry (in suit) during the podium ceremony after the US F1 Grand Prix at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas on 18 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Hamilton wins US Grand Prix for McLaren

F1

AUSTIN, (Texas) 19 Nov—McLaren's Lewis Hamilton won the US Grand Prix on Sunday while Red Bull's championship leader Sebastian Vettel failed to clinch his third consecutive drivers' title on his 100th career start.

Red Bull did celebrate another victory, however, securing the constructors' title

for a third straight year with Vettel finishing second in the race.

The battle for the drivers' title will now come down to the final race on the calendar in Brazil next Sunday with Vettel taking a 13 point advantage over Ferrari's Fernando Alonso into Sao Paulo. Alonso finished third on Sunday.—*Reuters*



New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski (C) celebrates his touchdown against the Indianapolis Colts as Colts safety Tom Zbikowski (L) walks away and Patriots teammate Julian Edelman (R) looks on during the second half of their NFL football game in Foxborough, Massachusetts on 18 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Patriots' Gronkowski

NFL breaks forearm

FOXBOROUGH, 19 Nov—New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski broke his forearm in Sunday's 59-24 win over the Indianapolis Colts and could face six weeks out, NFL.com reported on Sunday.

Gronkowski, who was a key part of the Patriots' run to the Super Bowl last season with 17 touchdowns, had 137 yards and two touchdowns against the

Colts before his injury.

Aaron Hernandez, the other part of the Patriots innovative twin tight end offense, has been out with an ankle injury since week seven.

Gronkowski has said he could be out for four to six weeks, NFL.com reported.

The Patriots (7-3) lead the AFC East by three games.—*Reuters*



Athletes compete in the 26th Marabana Marathon 2012, in Havana, capital of Cuba, on 18 Nov, 2012. The marathon was to commemorate the founding of the town San Cristobal and the National Day of Physical Culture and Sport.—XINHUA

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(20-11-12 09:30 am ~ 21-11-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Karaweik Palace: A Symbol of Glorious Myanma Culture
- * News
- * Tour around Shanghai with Lenovo
- * News
- * IWT Getting Ready for the People & the Country
- * Moe Hnyin Than Buddha The Unique Pagoda in Monywa
- * News
- * The Lantern Parade of Taung Gyi Tasaungdine
- * News
- * Road to 27th SEA

- GAMES (Badminton)
- * Taw Win Centre Halloween Night
 - * News
 - * Reliable Transportation Mode for Suburbanites (Part-1)
 - * News
 - * Reliable Transportation Mode for Suburbanites (Part-2)
 - * News
 - * Mazali Salad & Vermicelli Soup
 - * Myanmar Highlights
 - * Myanmar Movie "Heartbroken Lady"

MYANMAR TV

(20-11-2012, Tuesday)

- 7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

- 7:15 am
2. Dhama Puja Song
- 7:25 am
3. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
4. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
5. Dance Of National Races
- 8:10 am
6. Songs Of Yester Years
- 8:30 am
7. Road to 27th SEA Games (Myanmar Archery Federation)
- 4:00 pm
8. Martial Song
- 4:05 pm
9. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 4:20 pm
10. Teleplay (Traffic)
- 4:40 pm
11. The Mirror Images of

- The Musical Oldies
- 4:50 pm
12. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (History)
- 5:05 pm
13. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:20 pm
14. Documentary
- 5:45 pm
15. Sweet Melody
- 6:20 pm
16. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than
- 6:35 pm
17. Sing A Song
- 7:10 pm
18. Dance Of National Races
- 8:00 pm
19. News
20. Bakery World
21. TV Drama Series
22. India Drama Series



Photo shows two footballers fighting for a ball at the second friendly match between Myanmar selected football team and Japanese Okayama Club of J-League at Thuwunna Stadium on 17 November. The match ended in a one-all draw.

KYEMON

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Cameron pledges to lower hurdles to growth

LONDON, 19 Nov—British Prime Minister David Cameron promised on Monday to slash legal and regulatory obstacles to economic growth, seeking to ward off criticism that the government is doing too little to help companies and revive an ailing economy. Cameron said he was determined to cut through officialdom and change a risk-averse government culture of consultation, review and audit that hindered enterprise.

"When this country was at war in the 1940s, Whitehall underwent a revolution," he said, referring to the British government. "Normal rules were circumvented. Convention was thrown out," Cameron said in advance extracts of a speech to business leaders.

"As one historian put it, everything was thrown at 'the overriding purpose'

of beating Hitler. Well, this country is in the economic equivalent of war today - and we need the same spirit," he added. Cameron's Conservative-led government has pledged to tackle its budget deficit and has little room to boost Britain's stagnant growth

with extra state spending.

It has instead been seeking to promote a private-sector-led recovery, identifying a series of job-creating infrastructure projects, but has since been frustrated by the slow pace of progress.

Cameron said the



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron meets injured soldiers and their families at Tedworth House, a Help for Heroes recovery centre, in Tidworth, southern England on 16 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

government would impose restrictions on the use of a legal process known as judicial review, used increasingly by opponents to delay big infrastructure schemes. A planned high-speed rail line from London to Birmingham faces five such reviews in court hearings next month from residents and others affected by its construction.

In addition, officials would be barred from introducing costly business regulations unless they withdrew two other bureaucratic rules at the same time, in a doubling of an existing "one-in, one-out" procedure.

Cameron was due to make the remarks to the country's main business lobby group, the Confederation of British Industry, which has demanded more action to boost the economy.—Reuters

UN chief spotlights road safety as traffic accidents claim 1.2 million lives each year

UNITED NATIONS, 19 Nov—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Sunday highlighted the importance of road safety in preventing more than one million people from dying and many more from getting injured each year in traffic accidents. "This year, the world's roads have claimed some 1.2 million lives," the secretary-general said in his message marking World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims.

"Added to the fatalities are the more than 50 million people injured each year — many of them now condemned

to enduring physical disabilities and psychological trauma for the rest of their days," Ban said.

Around 90 percent of road traffic deaths and injuries occur in low and middle-income countries, and most of the victims are pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists.

According to the UN World Health Organization (WHO), in addition to killing close to 1.3 million people every year, traffic accidents also injure or disable as many as 50 million more — and, without urgent action, road traffic injuries will become

the fifth leading cause of death by 2030.

The World Day came about following the adoption of a resolution by the UN General Assembly in October 2005 calling for governments to mark the third Sunday in November each year as the occasion to give recognition to victims of road traffic crashes and the plight of their relatives who must cope with the emotional and practical consequences of the accidents.

In his message, the secretary-general noted that governments have taken positive steps to address traffic

accidents since more than 100 countries pledged last year to save five million lives by implementing road safety strategies and information campaigns at the launch of the Decade of Action for Road Safety, 2011-2020.

"Governments are acting," Ban said. "Chilean law now requires people traveling on inter-city buses to wear seatbelts. China has criminalized drinking and driving and increased penalties for offenders, and New Zealand has introduced stricter controls on alcohol for younger drivers."—Xinhua



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (R) meets with French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius in the West Bank city of Ramallah, on 18 Nov, 2012. Laurent Fabius called for a ceasefire in Gaza, saying the situation requires an urgent and insistent calm.

XINHUA

Experts call for improving law on cultural relics protection

BEIJING, 19 Nov—Experts have called for timely moves to further improve the law on cultural relics protection at the time when the country marks the 30th anniversary of its legislation on protecting cultural heritage.

On 19 November, 1982, China's top legislators approved the country's law on cultural relics protection. During the past 30 years, the country has made great achievements in the cause of preserving cultural relics.

However, many cultural relics are still not being protected in a timely and effective manner, as some relics are destroyed in the process of urban construction, ancient tombs are robbed, collected historic relics get stolen and relics are smuggled.

According to statistics

from the latest national archaeological survey conducted from 2007 to 2011, China has more than 760,000 pieces of registered unmovable cultural relics and 2,384 state-owned museums with 28.6 million pieces of collected relics.

The survey also revealed that in the past 30 years, more than 40,000 unmovable relics have vanished, with half of them destroyed by construction work.

Thirty-one Han Tombs in north China's Hebei Province that were listed on the provincial-level preservation list in 1982 have suffered fierce robberies. Irregular bottomless caves can be found at each tomb, and some thieves have even robbed the tombs in broad daylight, according to local villagers.

Xinhua

President U Thein Sein attends 15th ASEAN-China Summit



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attending 15th ASEAN-China Summit.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein

together with heads of state/government of ASEAN countries, Premier Mr Wen Jiabao and ministers, the ASEAN secretary-general, ministers from ASEAN countries, high ranking officials attended 15th

ASEAN-China Summit at Champa Room on the third floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia here this evening.

Before the Summit, heads of state/government of ASEAN countries and Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao posed for a documentary photo.

At the Summit, heads of state/government of ASEAN countries and the Chinese Premier reviewed the ASEAN-China relations and exchanged views on future prospects.

President U Thein Sein said at the Summit that since joining the ASEAN in 1997, Myanmar has cooperated with other countries to further strengthen the ASEAN-China relations and constantly supported China; that establishment of ASEAN Community would benefit future generation and the peoples of ASEAN and China, and that the close relations with China would contribute to regional and global peace, stability and development.

The President continued that they will make continued efforts for economic

cooperation including cooperation in ASEAN-China trade and investment and development of south and north economic corridors among Mekong region countries; that such corridors reflect the vital role of China for the success of the ASEAN Integrated Communication Master Plan, and that they will exert more efforts for realization of the master plan partnering the government and private sector.

Myanmar took pride in taking charge of duty as an honorary country at the 9th China-ASEAN Expo held in Nanning and reaffirmed its adopted commitment to achieving the ASEAN-China trade objectives by 2015, he said.

The President also expressed his honour to Premier Wen Jiabao for his constant support in the promoting of the ASEAN-China relations, saying that the premier was a good friend for ASEAN, and wished him success, happiness and pleasure. The President assured close cooperation with new leaders of China in the future.

MNA

President U Thein Sein meets Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yoshihiko Noda

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yoshihiko Noda at Lumchang Room on the second floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 4:20 pm today.

Present at the meeting together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw

and departmental heads. Japanese Prime Minister was accompanied by high ranking officials.

At first, the President and the Japanese Prime Minister exchanged souvenirs and posed for a documentary photo.

At the meeting, the Japanese Prime Minister said that he was pleased to meet the President and he expressed sympathy for victims of the earthquake which hit Sagaing and Mandalay Regions on 11 November. Plans are under way to reduce Myanmar's debts in January 2013. Japan would provide Yen 50,000 million as new loan for development of national roads in the border areas, construction of Thilawa Port, construction of deep seaports, effective use for poverty alleviation tasks being undertaken by the State, necessary assistance in communications sector for 2013 SEA Games and 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship, he said.

Moreover, Japan would help train Myanmar



President U Thein Sein presents souvenir to Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yoshihiko Noda at Lumchang Room on second floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh.—MNA

officials in Japan and would invite ministerial level and high ranking officials level to visit Japan, he added.

He went on to say that he recognized reform process taken under the leadership of the President

and reaffirmed to support the changes.

The President explained current developments in the country and said that the State has been carrying out relief and rehabilitation tasks in quake-hit areas

and US President today visited Myanmar as he recognizes reform process in Myanmar.

The President pledged to enhance developmental activities for the State and the people.—MNA

Storm news

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov— According to the observations at 6:30 hrs MST today, the depression over West-central Bay of Bengal lay centered at about (420) miles west of Patheingyi, (400) miles Southwest of Kyaukpadaung. It's forecast to move West-Southwest slowly.

Current stage of the depression is coded as

yellow stage which means is not moving towards Myanmar Coast.

Under the influence of Depression, occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

A slight earthquake jolts inside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Nov— A slight earthquake of magnitude 3.8 Richter scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 25 miles South of Nay Pyi Taw) about 176 miles South

of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 23 hrs 17 min 44 sec M.S.T yesterday, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA