

President U Thein Sein accepts Credentials of Ambassadors of Britain, EU



Kobia, the newly-accredited Ambassador of European Union to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the same venue, at 11:30 am today.

Present on the occasions were Union Minister U Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin.—MNA



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Mr Andrew Patrick, newly-accredited Ambassador of Her Britannic Majesty to Myanmar.—MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts Credential from Mr Roland Kobia, the newly-accredited Ambassador of European Union to Myanmar.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept—Mr Andrew Patrick, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Her Britannic Majesty to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Similarly, the President accepted the Credentials from Mr. Roland Kobia, the newly-accredited Ambassador of European Union to Myanmar, at the same venue, at 11:30 am today.

EU to provide assistance to 2015 election



UEC Chairman U Tin Aye greets Adviser to the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Mr. Robert Cooper.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept—Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye received a delegation led by Adviser to the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Mr. Robert Cooper at the meeting hall of the UEC Office, here, this morning.

They cordially discussed assistance of EU for the successful holding of free and fair elections in 2015, and sharing knowledge of experts from EU on electoral experience and technical assistance.

It was attended by UEC members U Myint Naing and Dr Daw Myint Kyi, Secretary U Tin Tun and officials from the UEC's Office. MNA

Indonesia-Myanmar Dialogue on Democratic Transition

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept—As part of the Indonesian commitment to support the democratic transition of Myanmar, Institute for Peace and Democracy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies will hold a two days workshop titled “Indonesia-Myanmar Dialogue on Decentralization, Democratization and Peace Building” in Yangon, Myanmar, on 24-25 September 2013.

The workshop is opened by Dr. Hassan Wirajuda (the Parton of IPD) and Ambassador U Nyunt Maung Shein (Chairman of Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies), and Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono. There are seven resource persons from Indonesia and 12 resource persons from Myanmar who will give valuable contribution to the workshop. These resource persons will share their knowledge through their experience and expertise.



Indonesia-Myanmar Dialogue on Decentralization, Democratization and Peace Building in progress.—MNA

The dialogue will discuss the experiences on decentralization that could bring democracy and peace when the decentralization improves levels of public services, bureaucratic accountability, efficiency in administration, and responsiveness to the local needs.

In this workshop, both countries will share their knowledge and experiences on decentralization, democratization, and peace building.

It is expected that all valuable experience and contribution to this dialogue would bring a dynamic discussion and fruitful outcome.—NLM

Agriculture

Monsoon paddy test plots, plant proliferation of quality paddy demonstrated

KYAIKTO, 24 Sept— Monsoon paddy test plot and plant propagation of quality paddy strain plantation for 2013-14 was shown in the farmland of U Thein Naing in Kawhtin Village of Kyaikto Township in Mon State on 15 September.

Head of Township Agriculture Department U Hlaing Wunna explained test plots of monsoon

paddy plantations, flood resistant paddy plantations, propagation of 30 acres of Pawhsanyin paddy strains, cultivation of 53 acres of Paethwe hybrid paddy plantations in the township, Township Administrator U Myo Aung, propagation of quality paddy strains in the township, advantages of good agricultural patterns and salient points for proper

flow of water at the paddy fields and Head of District Agriculture Department U Myint Sein, conditions of propagating quality paddy strains.

Officials of the paddy test plots gave talks on thriving of paddy plantations on each test plot.

Kyemon-Township IPRD



Paddy saplings transplanted, fertilizer fed on 100-acre monsoon sinthu ha paddy plantation

HLAINGBWE, 24 Sept—A ceremony to take out different paddy strain saplings, collectively broadcast fertilizer and grow bean plants on dykes was held on 100-acre Hsinthukha quality paddy zone in irrigated area of Yebok dam in Thanban Village of Hlaingbwe Township in Kayin State on 14 September afternoon.

It was also attended

by Head of Kayin State Agriculture Department U Myint Oo explained taking out of different paddy strains for the first time and growing of bean on the dykes of the plantations.

The head of Township Agriculture Department and staff demonstrated taking out of different paddy saplings and cultivation of beans.

Kyemon-Hlaingbwe IPRD

Traditional dances marking launching of Bangkok - Mandalay airlines

MANDALAY, 24 Sept— The performance of the band of Ubon Rachathani University of Thailand and Traditional Dance Troupe jointly held the traditional dances at the National Theatre in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay on 17 September evening in commemoration of the successfully launching of the Bangkok-Mandalay direct flight conducted by Bangkok Airways.

Moreover, the ceremony marked the opening ceremony of Golden Jubilee Tipitaka Free Eye Hospital

in 2003 for raising music capability.

The band which is the best troupe in northeast area of Thailand performed entertainment for promotion of friendly relations between Myanmar and Thailand.

A dinner to mark the launching of maiden flight of Bangkok Airways was held at Hotel Shwepyitha on Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin Road on 16 September evening.

It was attended by Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, region ministers, the Thai Ambassador and

Self-reliant library put into service in Insein Township

YANGON, 24 Sept—A Family library was opened on A-3 Street in Myothit A+B Ward of Insein Township in Yangon North District on 15 September morning.

Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Yi Yi Myint, Head of Township Information and Public

Relations Department Daw Khi Hnin Kyi, Patron of the library committee U Kyaw Lwin, writer U Kyi Thant and fourth standard student Maung Arkar Min released doves at the opening ceremony.

The library provided with 3800 books and applications is kept open from 7 am to 9 pm daily.

Kyemon-684

Accident

Electrician electrocuted in Thazi Township

THAZI, 24 Sept— An electrician died of electrocution while repairing the transformer in Thazi Township of Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 17 September.

Policemen from Thazi Myoma Police Station have been informed that one person who died of electrocution arrived at

Thazi People's Hospital at 9.30 am on that day. They checked the person, by the name of Ko Htay Win (a) Tuk Pi, 46 who repaired the No 7 transformer together with duty-assigned electrician Ko Than Tun due to power cut. The dead person was injured at his hands in the incident.

Kyemon-579

Villages in Inlay area enjoy fruits of electrification

NYAUNGSHWE, 24 Sept—The Inlay region 24-hour electrification central committee formed with local people has supplied electricity to 120 villages of the region, said Chairman of the central committee U Tin Soe.

"At present, over 50 villages on the eastern part of the lake and over 70 on the western part have been illuminated. Now, electrification tasks are going on," said U Tin Soe.

Shan State Minister for Inn National Races Affairs U Win Myint remarked, "If electrification

has been completed in all villages, all the problems would be cleared. Cooking uses electricity instead of firewood as part of efforts to conserve forests. Electricity can be used in cottage industries and production of purified drinking water."

A power line was linked with national grid to supply electricity to Phaungdaw U Pagoda round the clock in 1990. Thanks to that work, Tahley, Ywama and Inpawkhon Villages consume electricity. In 2011, other villages got electricity on a self-reliant basis.

The 66 KV sub-

power stations have been built in Khaungdaing and Nyaungshwe to supply electricity to villages in Inlay Lake and installed power lines to the villages, said U Tin Soe.

Daw Hla Kywar, 66, of Lethittaung Village, which is one of the villages in Inlay Lake, said, "I think it is a dream. But, the dream comes true. I am so pleased for electrification."

However, some villages could not install power lines from the national grid and use solar panels for self-reliant basis electrification.

Kyemon-Paing Soe



Dancers from Ubon Rachathani University of Thailand and music band perform entertainment to audience to mark launching Bangkok-Mandalay direct flight.

in Myinmu Township of Sagaing Region.

The audience enjoyed entertainments performed by the music band of Thailand's University.

The band was formed

the chairman of Bangkok Airways.

The chairman of the airways donated hospital equipment for the free eye hospital.

Kyemon-002

WORLD

Japan urges Iran to show flexibility over nuclear issue

NEW YORK, 24 Sept— Japan urged Iran on Monday to show “flexibility” in order to settle the dispute over its nuclear programmes and offered help toward that goal, Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said.

Kishida told Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who also serves as the country’s chief nuclear negotiator, of the Japanese position during their talks in New York, the Japanese minister told reporters at the United Nations.

Kishida and Zarif met as Iran agreed with the five

permanent UN Security Council members plus Germany the same day to hold a foreign ministerial meeting on Thursday on Tehran’s alleged nuclear weapon programmes. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has said he will promote dialogue-oriented diplomacy.

Kishida also said he told Zarif that Japan hopes Iran will play a “constructive role” toward settlement of the crisis in civil war-racked Syria, where chemical weapons were used against civilians. Iran has traditionally close ties with Syria. Rouhani recently showed willingness to



Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida addresses reporters at the United Nations headquarters in New York on Sept 24 after meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. KYODO NEWS

facilitate dialogue between the Syrian regime of President Bashar al-Assad and rebels.—Kyodo News

Syria to cast shadow over UN meeting amid Iran hopes

UNITED NATIONS, 24 Sept—A slew of international crises will take centre stage this week as the UN General Assembly gathers in New York — Syria’s bloody civil war, the possible appearance of Sudan’s president despite an arrest warrant for alleged genocide, and outrage over a massive US cyber spying programme.

There are also some hopes for good news. Many of the 193 UN member states are looking for signs of a thaw in relations between arch-enemies Iran and the United States.

US officials say a meeting is possible between President Barack Obama and Iran’s newly elected centrist President Hassan Rouhani, and if it happens, it would be the first meeting of US and Iranian government heads since before the 1979 revolution. That would mark a

big change from the annual rants in recent years against Israel and the United States by Iran’s former president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the top agenda item will be Syria’s 2-1/2-year civil war, which the United Nations says has killed more than 100,000

people and displaced millions, who have been forced to flee the country.

No one expects a breakthrough in the crisis this week, though there may be approval of a UN resolution backing a US-Russian plan to rid Syria of chemical arms.

Reuters



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon gestures during a news conference during the UN global impact leaders summit at the United Nations European headquarters in Geneva on Sunday. REUTERS

Iran to join six-power talks at UN this week: EU

UNITED NATIONS, 24 Sept— Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif will join the five permanent UN Security Council members and Germany later this week to discuss the crisis over Iran’s nuclear programme, European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said on Monday.

“We talked about a number of important issues that focused on the nuclear issue,” Ashton told reporters after meeting Zarif ahead of this week’s UN General As-



European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton addresses the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Sept 24.

sembly session in New York. “We had a good and constructive discussion.” Reuters

Moscow: Violence in Iraq directly linked to events in Syria

Moscow, 24 Sept— Recent terror attacks in Iraq have been “directly linked” to the events in neighbouring Syria, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

In a statement, the ministry reaffirmed its solidarity with the Iraqi leadership and people in countering terror threats.

“It is important to

strike the extremists back in their attempt to increase tension among different political and ethnic-confessional groups in the country,” it said.

Moscow condemned the “inhumane crimes” which resulted in the death of scores of innocent people.

More than 70 people

were killed and over 120 wounded in Baghdad in the latest string of bombings over the weekend.

The UN Assistance Mission for Iraq said earlier this month that almost 5,000 civilians were killed and 12,000 others injured in Iraq from January to August this year.

inh a

Media, former defence chiefs blast Obama’s Syria policy

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept— US President Barack Obama has always had his detractors among conservative media and the Republican Party (GOP), but now his former employees as well as mainstream media are chiming in, hammering him over his Syria policy.

In later August, Obama threatened to strike Syria for an alleged chemical weapons attack on 21 Aug by the Syrian government, but added that he would first seek Congress’ approval. However, Russia brokered a deal on 14 Sept to put Syria’s chemical arms under international control for destruction by mid-2014.

With the dust not yet settled, it remains unknown

weather the plan will work, and there is no plan B if the current plan fails.

Joining critics, Obama’s first two defence secretaries, Robert Gates and Leon Panetta, on Wednesday upbraided their former boss for his handling of the Syria crisis.

“To blow a bunch of stuff up over a couple days...is not a strategy,” Gates said in a speech in Dallas, Texas. Speaking at the same event, Panetta also expressed criticism, saying Obama should have backed up his “red line” rhetoric with action, arguing that the “credibility of this country is dependent on him backing up his word.”

Obama previously warned Syrian President Bashar al-Assad against the

use of chemical weapons, saying this would be a “red line” that will lead to direct US intervention.

Media criticism of Obama is also widening, and underscores the coun-

try’s affliction with Iraq syndrome — a desire to avoid another Middle East conflict perceived to have little to do with US national security interests.

inh a



Chinese people donate blood at a blood donation station in Airobi on Sept 24. Many Chinese working in Kenya gathered to donate their blood for those injured during the Westgate mall attack since last Saturday. XINHUA

EU contributes to global fight against poverty

BRUSSELS, 24 Sept— Funds from the European Union have helped millions to get food, education and other basic facilities, according to the Commission’s latest report on how it contributed to reducing global poverty and supporting the UN’s millennium development goals (MDGs). In the period of 2004 to 2012, 14 million pupils went to primary school and 46.5 million people received food support through the EU funds. Tens of thousands of schools were built or renovated, millions of teachers were trained, and millions of children were immunized from infectious diseases, said the report.

“Eradicating poverty within one generation is possible... Investing in fair and sustainable globalization is not just the right thing to do,

but also a matter of strategic vision,” European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said here on Monday. Barroso is scheduled to take part in a special UN event in New York later this week focusing on poverty eradication and global agenda for development after 2015. The MDGs, agreed by the international community in 2000, are set to be achieved by the year 2015, covering poverty, hunger, education, gender equality, health, environment and global partnership for development.

The EU and its member states are the world’s largest donor, highly committed to helping achieve the MDGs. It has a special programme worth one billion euros (1.35 billion dollars) targeting countries under critical circumstances.— inh a

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Teenage Chinese blogger released after outcry on Internet

BEIJING, 24 Sept—Police in China on Monday released a teenager detained for questioning on his microblog authorities' handling of a man's death, a move that triggered an Internet outcry over censorship. State media had said that the junior high school student, surnamed Yang, was the first person detained under strict new rules to tackle what the government calls the spread of online rumours.

The release of the 16-year-old in the western

province of Gansu represents a victory for many microbloggers, who protested online after his detention last Tuesday for comments on his Twitter-like microblog. Yang had said that a man described by police as having committed suicide had been murdered instead.

Police said the man committed suicide by jumping from a high-rise building on September 12, after a visit to a karaoke club and that Yang's "phony" posts had prompted some residents to stage a protest.

Yang had served a week-long detention for "administrative infractions", the official *inh a* news agency said on Monday. He was initially detained on a charge of "provoking trouble".

"In light of Yang being a teenager, his active compliance with the investigation, his sincere regret for the crime and the circumstances of being a minor, local police withdrew the criminal case and handed down a lenient punishment," *inh a* said.

China's top court and prosecutor said in early September that people would be charged with defamation if online rumours they created were visited by 5,000 Internet users or reposted more than 500 times.

The move was seen as a government effort to rein in online social media, increasingly used by Internet users to discuss politics, despite stringent censorship.

Re e s

Indian social media needs stricter control, say government officials at NIC

NEW DELHI, 24 Sept—The misuse of social media to spread objectionable content and hatred among communities on Monday came under attack from Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and a number of Chief Ministers who demanded some mechanism to check its uncontrolled use.

Participating in the day-long National Integration Council (NIC) meeting, being held against the backdrop of recent communal riots in Muzaffarnagar, they demanded an oversight mechanism to prevent and control the social media from running riot in such situations.

The meeting, chaired by the Prime Minister, expressed serious concern over growing incidents of communal violence and the need for parties to stop exploiting them for political gains, especially with elections round the corner.

Union Ministers, Leaders of the Opposition in



Parliament, chief ministers, leaders of national and regional political parties, eminent people from media, business and public life attended the meeting of the 148-member body.

Summing up their mood, the Prime Minister said the recent communal violence in some cases have brought to notice circulation of fake videos aimed at inciting the feeling of hatred in one community towards the other.

He said before this, in 2012, people have fanned hatred against the people of the Northeast which re-

sulted in their mass exodus.

"Social media helps youngsters to get new information and new thought. It should be used in ensuring brotherhood and communal harmony.

"It is necessary to maintain independence of giving opinion and views by people in social media. But at the same time, it is also important that we do not let miscreants and troublemakers to misuse social media. I feel today's meeting will look into the issue of misuse of social media and deliberate on it," he said.

PTI



AI recommendations inconsistent, legally untenable

MUMBAI, 24 Sept—Raising issues over telecom regulator TRAI's suggestions on spectrum charges, Reliance Jio Infocomm has said they will make the third round of auction inconsistent and legally untenable. The Mukesh Ambani-led firm has also alleged that TRAI recommendations favour incumbent telecom operators.

TRAI has recommended increasing annual fee for Broadband Wireless Access spectrum, used for 4G services, from 1 percent to 3 percent which will put burden on RJIL as it is only player to have pan-India rights for these airwaves.

"TRAI has suo-motu recommended that SUC rate for BWA spectrum should also be fixed at 3 per cent... It is to mention that this issue was neither referred by DoT nor raised in the consultation paper.

Also, it was not discussed during the open house discussions," RJIL said in a letter to the Department of Telecom.

The company said this recommendation

is "arbitrary, inconsistent, out of context" and contrary to rules published in Notice Inviting Application (NIA), under which RJIL, formerly Infotel Broadband, purchased pan-India spectrum. It said NIA terms are legally binding on both the government as well as the bidders and TRAI too has held same view in the past.

"This retrospective change is, therefore, legally untenable, self-contradictory, without any justifiable reason and benefits only a section of telecom industry by restricting competition," RJIL alleged.

It further said that TRAI's reference to NIA document for auction of 2G spectrum in November 2012 and March 2013 to make the changes is not valid.

TRAI's mentioning that "NIA clearly qualifies that the SUC rates will be as declared by government from time to time" is "factually incorrect and misleading in the context of NIA issued for auction of BWA spectrum in 2010", RJIL said.

PTI

Hybrid lens developed, combining depth of field and wide-angle features

COLUMBUS, 24 Sept—A new hybrid lens that combines features of insect and human eye could lead to smartphones that rival the photo quality of digital cameras, and surgical imaging to see inside the human body like never before.

The lens shows a wide view, but still offers a sense of human-like depth perception as close objects come into focus, far away objects look blurry.

"Our eye can change focus. An insect eye is made of many small optical components that can't change focus but give a wide view. We can combine the two," said Yi hao, associate professor of biomedical engineering and ophthalmology at Ohio State University.

"What we get is a wide-angle lens with depth of field," said Zhao.

Apps find sitters, overnight lodging for furry friends

TORONTO, 24 Sept—Dog owners need not worry about leaving their pets at home alone or finding a kennel because new apps can locate and book sitters in their neighbourhoods who will lodge, feed and entertain their animals.

There are about 78 million dogs in the United States, according to the

American Humane Society, and finding a dog sitter is not always easy.

DogVacay released a free app for iPhone and iPod Touch on Monday that has been dubbed an Airbnb for pets, referring to the app that connects people who have space to spare with those looking for a place to stay.



The prototype lens is made of a flexible transparent polymer filled with a gelatinous fluid similar to fluid inside the human eye. It's a composite of several separate dome-shaped fluid pockets, with small domes sitting atop one larger dome.

Each dome is adjust-

able, so that as fluid is pumped into and out of the lens, different parts of it expand and contract to change the overall shape and thus, the direction and focus of the lens.

This shape-changing strategy is somewhat similar to the way muscles in the human eye change the

shape of the lens tissue in order to focus.

It differs dramatically from the way typical cameras and microscopes focus, which involves moving separate glass lenses back and forth along the line of sight.

The shape-changing lens could potentially offer the same focusing capability as multiple moving lenses in a single stationary lens, which would make for smaller and lighter cameras and microscopes.

hao is interested in using the lens in confocal microscopes, which use a system of moving glass lenses and a laser to scan three-dimensional images of tiny objects.

"We believe that it is possible to make a confocal microscope with no moving parts," he said.—PTI



Re e s

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Microsoft revamps Surface tablets to challenge Apple

NEW YORK, 24 Sept—Microsoft Corp unveiled faster, more powerful versions of its Surface tablet computer on Monday in an effort to boost poor sales of its flagship hardware product and mount a stronger challenge to Apple Inc's iPad.

The Surface is key to Microsoft's plan to reinvent itself as a 'devices and services' company, but comes less than a year after it brought out its own computers for the first time and failed to put a dent in the market. It has racked up only \$853 million in sales while generating a \$900 million charge for unsold inventory.

At an event in New York, Microsoft unveiled two new machines and a range of accessories promising faster processing, better battery life and more apps.

The new Surface 2, which runs on a low-power chip designed by ARM Holdings Plc, starts at \$449 for the 32 GB version, not including a snap-on keyboard starting at \$120. That is slightly less than Apple's latest wifi-only 32GB iPad, which costs \$599.



Panos Panay, Microsoft Surface general manager, holds up the Microsoft Surface Pro 2 during the launch of their Surface 2 tablets in New York on 24 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

The new Surface Pro 2, which runs on an Intel Corp chip and is aimed more at the lightweight laptop market, starts at \$899 for the 64 GB version, not including keyboard. Apple's cheapest 128 GB MacBook Air costs \$999. Initial reaction was tepid.

"I don't see much incentive for people to buy these devices. Yes, they are cheaper than the iPads, but is that enough reason?" said Jack Gold, a technology analyst at J Gold Associates. "It seems like Microsoft is just maintaining the traditional PC mantra - keep upgrading the chip and hardware a little bit every year

at a slightly lower price. I think they needed to do something that was innovative beyond the first generation, and I don't see that in these devices."

Microsoft shares were steady at \$32.82 on Nasdaq, while Apple shares rose 4 percent after reporting strong sales of its new iPhone 5s and 5c models and offering a more optimistic forecast. As an added incentive, Microsoft is taking advantage of its other products, offering customers free Skype calling to landlines in more than 60 countries for one year and 200 GB of free storage on SkyDrive, Microsoft's on-

line 'cloud' storage product that competes with Google Drive and Dropbox.

The Surface 2 comes preloaded with a stripped-down version of Office, including Outlook email. Surface Pro 2 can run the full, standard version of Office, but the software must be bought separately.

The hugely popular Office suite is the Surface's one unique selling point over Apple, as Microsoft has not released full, custom-designed Office apps for the iPad. "What should be the 'killer app' is Microsoft Office," said Avi Greengart, an analyst at Current Analysis, who was more optimistic about the new Surface products. "The Surface Pro has a place as an ultra-portable notebook replacement. If you value the touch screen form factor at that price point, it's a reasonable option."

The new machines will be available for sale online, in Microsoft stores and at a few third-party retailers in the United States and most other major markets, except Japan, on 22 October. It will be available in China in early November.

Reuters

US factory activity loses momentum in September

NEW YORK, 24 Sept—US manufacturing activity growth slowed in September as demand for products declined and firms took on fewer workers, an industry report showed on Monday.

Financial data firm Markit said its "flash," or preliminary, US Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index retreated to 52.8 this month from 53.1 in August. A reading above 50 indicates expansion.

Output growth accelerated to a six-month high of 55.3 from 52.5, but new order inflows from domestic and overseas customers slowed, suggesting "production growth is likely to weaken in the fourth quarter unless demand picks up again in October," said Chris Williamson, Markit's chief economist.

Firms took a cautious approach to hiring this month. The employment sub-index fell to 51.4, marking the slowest rate of job creation in three months. It stood at 53.1 in August.

The survey suggests growth momentum in the

sector may be flagging and "vindicate(s) the Federal Reserve's decision to hold off on tapering its asset purchases," Williamson said.

Citing concerns about the economy's health, the Fed decided last week to carry on buying \$85 billion of bonds each month to keep interest rates low and support growth. Investors expected the central bank to begin trimming those purchases this month.

The US economy grew at a faster-than-expected 2.5 percent clip in the second quarter, but the Fed last week cut sharply its growth forecasts for the full year and for 2014.

Markit's "flash" reading is based on replies from about 85 percent of the US manufacturers surveyed. A final reading will be released on the first business day of the following month.

A separate national manufacturing survey from the Institute for Supply Management, however, showed the sector grew in August at its fastest pace in more than two years as new orders rose.—Reuters

Cardiome says intravenous heart drug faster than oral rivals

TORONTO, 24 Sept—Cardiome Pharma Corp said an intravenous version of its drug to treat irregular heartbeat was found to be more effective than two rival oral drugs as it helped to bring patients' heartbeat back to normal levels in shorter time. Shares of the Canadian company jumped 31 percent to an 18-month high

of C\$4.09 on the Toronto Stock Exchange on Monday. The company's Nasdaq-listed shares also rose 31 percent. Patients treated with the drug, vernakalant, could get their heartbeat back to normal levels in a median time of 12 minutes, the company said. The intravenous version is well-tolerated in patients with recent

onset of atrial fibrillation, Cardiome said.

Those treated with propafenone and flecainide drugs could get their normal heartbeat back in 151 minutes and 162 minutes, respectively, the company said. Vernakalant is used to treat chronic atrial fibrillation (AF), a heart rhythm disorder that can lead to

stroke and heart failure.

The company said the open label study in patients with atrial fibrillation showed no adverse events.

The drug is approved in Europe and Latin America and is in late-stage trial in other markets, including the United States, according to Cardiome's website.

Reuters



Workers assemble Motorola phones at the Flextronics plant that will be building the new Motorola smart phone 'MotoX' in Fort Worth, Texas on 10 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

United Nations reports 'dramatic' progress in fight against AIDS

LONDON, 24 Sept—The global rate of HIV infection and the number of AIDS-related deaths have been dramatically reduced, thanks to expanding access to treatment, the United Nations said in a report issued on Monday.

In its annual update on HIV, which it said now infects around 35.3 million people worldwide, UNAIDS said deaths from AIDS and HIV infection rates were falling, while the number of people getting treatment is going up.

AIDS-related deaths in 2012 fell to 1.6 million, down from 1.7 million in 2011 and a peak of 2.3 mil-

lion in 2005. And the number of people newly infected with the disease dropped to 2.3 million in 2012 down from 2.5 million in 2011.

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS can be transmitted via blood, breast milk and by semen during sex, but can be kept in check with cocktails of drugs known as antiretroviral treatment or therapy.

By the end of 2012, some 9.7 million people in poorer and middle-income countries had access to such AIDS drugs, an increase of nearly 20 percent in a year.

Since 2001, the UN report said, there has been a

52 percent drop in annual new HIV infections among children and a 33 percent reduction in newly infected

adults and children combined.

In 2011, UN member states agreed to a target of

getting HIV treatment to 15 million people by 2015. As countries scaled up treatment coverage and as evidence showed how treating HIV early also reduces its spread, the World Health Organization set new guidelines this year, expanding the number of people needing treatment by more than 10 million.

Michel Sidibé, UNAIDS' executive director, said the international community should aim to surpass the 2015 goal.

"Not only can we meet the 2015 target of 15 million people on HIV treatment, we must also go beyond and have the vision

and commitment to ensure no one is left behind," he said in a statement with Monday's report.

The UNAIDS report found that despite a flattening in donor funding for HIV, which has remained near 2008 levels, individual countries' domestic spending on the epidemic has increased, accounting for 53 percent of global HIV resources in 2012.

Total funding for the global fight against HIV and AIDS in 2012 was \$18.9 billion, about \$3 billion to \$5 billion short of the estimated \$22 billion to \$24 billion needed annually by 2015.—Reuters



About 2880 candles are seen lit during a World AIDS Day event in Jakarta on 1 December, 2009.—REUTERS

ARTICLE

From Good-Neighbourly Relations to Stability and Peace

Today's inexorable march of globalization has made it impractical for countries to remain in isolation, with interaction and cooperation playing an increasingly vital role. Good relations among neighbouring countries can be expected to have positive outcomes that contribute to national security and national interest. In accordance with the saying, while friends can be chosen, neighbours cannot, Myanmar appreciates its external realities and has always worked toward maintaining and improving good relations with neighbouring countries that share a common border with it. Myanmar has the good tradition of friendship with neighbouring countries built on the foundation of peace. Minor issues that were encountered have been resolved amicably through peaceful interaction. There is also the tradition of developing friendship with neighbouring countries through the Ten Bandung Principles adopted at the Bandung Conference of 1955.

Myanmar and Thailand have a long history of relationship that saw both smooth and turbulent periods. Ensuring good relations between Thailand and Myanmar is the responsibility of both countries, with the principal motivation being the inextricable relationship between the stability and security of border areas and the national interests of both countries.

Observers seem to agree that political changes in Myanmar after 2011 have tended to be positive. The current political, economic, administrative and private sector reforms in Myanmar and the building of domestic peace are interrelated and synergistic. Without successful domestic peace-building, the ongoing reforms will face challenges and obstacles. For this reason, the Government is making special efforts for building peace. In Myanmar, there are about 130 nationalities that have descended from 8 major national groups. At present, 16 ethnic armed groups are in existence, all of them operating in border areas. Everyone needs to appreciate the impossibility of achieving democracy through a programme of armed conflict. The Government has been making sincere efforts for domestic peace-building. Through the good practice and programme of joining hands where commonalities exist and having a dialogue where differences exist and adopting an approach characterized by flexibility and fairness, cease-fire agreements have been signed with 14 of the 16 ethnic armed groups. These developments in the peace process are associated

with the changes in the Myanmar political process and constitute a victory for the State.

Changes in Myanmar politics have strengthened the position of Myanmar and improved friendship in international relations including those with neighbouring countries. Friendship and good relations with neighbouring countries represent forces that contribute to political stability in Myanmar and are a requirement for the peaceful and stable future of the country. As Myanmar politics correctly moves towards democracy and Myanmar's geopolitical importance increases, the warm and friendly handshakes of leaders of neighbouring countries carry great significance.

Leaders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Royal Kingdom of Thailand have exchanged friendship visits since the establishment of bilateral relations. When the new government assumed responsibilities in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, bilateral relations and friendship were enhanced. President U Thein Sein has visited Thailand twice and Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, has visited Myanmar 3 times. Both countries firmly believe that through the exchange of visits by the Heads of State/Government of the 2 countries, cooperation will be enhanced, leading to greater political and economic development.

In 2012 and 2013, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, paid 3 friendship visits to Thailand, and the Chief of Defence Forces of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, General Tanasak Patimapragorn, has paid 4 visits to Myanmar. During the visits of the Chiefs of the Armed Forces of the two countries, agreements were reached not only to promote relations between the Armed Forces but also to enhance cooperation for the stability and security of border areas in the two countries. In May 2013, the Commander-In-Chief of Defence Services was awarded the "Knight Grand Cross, (First Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand" by His Majesty the King of Thailand in recognition of his efforts to promote cooperation and friendly relations between the Armed Forces of the two countries.

The Myanmar Armed Forces delegation led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the First Thailand-Myanmar High Level Committee Meeting (HLC) held in Thailand from 15 to 19

September. During the visit, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra. During the meeting, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing noted that the history of bilateral relations dates back 65 years. And the relations featured all three aspects of diplomatic, military attaché and neighbourly relations. Both countries will intensively maintain true friendship because our two countries have land and water border lines and have opportunity to cooperate by promoting current situation. He highlighted the fact that the Armed Forces has been participating in and contributing to the political, administrative and economic reforms being undertaken by the new Government and that continued progress is to be expected. The Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs. Yingluck Shinawatra, discussed in particular ways to resolve the issue of workers, cooperation on the resolution of border issues, and economic cooperation.

During their meeting, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, and the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, discussed the problem of narcot-

naymyothiha

ic drugs in the border area of the two countries, illegal arms smuggling, human trafficking, transnational crime, the issue of workers, cooperation for the stability and security of border areas, continuation of surveying border areas by leaving uncertain areas which have to negotiate for boundary demarcation efforts, establishment of businesses from Thailand in border areas inside Myanmar, bilateral cooperation on the Dawei deep sea port project and the enhancing relations between the Armed Forces of the two countries.

Both Myanmar and Thailand have Buddhist majorities and similar culture and customs. The ethnic peoples are also similar. With the Myanmar political process after 2011, those affinities have acquired a greater significance. During the period of the new Government, visits have been exchanged by the leaders of the two countries and historical milestones established. Friendship sporting events have been organized for the Armed Forces of the two countries and cooperation in the greater Mekong



Commander in Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing observes war vessel of Royal Thai Navy.

sub-region, construction of a deep sea port and the extension of Maesot-Mawlamyine flight are being undertaken under bilateral economic cooperation programmes. For human resource development, exchanges of scholars and study tours have been organized.

Myanmar is making contributions to regional stability and security through bilateral comprehensive arrangements not only with Thailand but also with the other neighbouring countries such as the People's Republic of China, India and the Lao PDR. Comprehensive security goes be-

ing, Senior Staff Talk, Joint Boundary Committee Meeting, Joint Technical Committee Meeting, Regional Border Committee Meeting, and Township Border Committee Meeting, are also conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The aim of the HLC meeting attended by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing was "the further improvement of relations between the two Armed Forces for the interest and peace of residents in border areas", which brings good prospects for development and stability for the entire national people.

With increasing interaction and warm friendship between the two countries, the Myanmar-Thai border areas are achieving greater stability day by day with a palpable decrease in conflicts. The stability of border areas is associated with the national interests of both countries and is deemed important and desirable by both sides. Bilateral friendship will be strengthened by the long border, geopolitical interrelationships and mutual investments. The Myanmar-Thai relations have provided significant assistance in the building of these with the national armed groups by the State.

The morning program of the VOA aired after the meeting between Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, included a statement on Thailand's stance toward Myanmar and its policy for the border areas: "The Thai government will not accept any organization using Thai territory as a base and opposing the Myanmar government. It will co-operate on issues of migrant workers and combating narcotic drugs in the 2 countries." The statement indicates a more

friendly, open and improved relationship between Myanmar and Thailand during the current transition to democracy that is taking place in Myanmar than that during the previous periods. From a security perspective, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, discussed cooperation arrangements on bilateral comprehensive security that will lead to a gradual termination of trafficking of narcotic drugs and arms, human trafficking, transnational crimes and violence. Overall, there can be no doubt that frank and cordial discussions between Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Thailand, Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, will bring positive benefits for both countries.

To sum up, while the Myanmar-Thai relations have had periods of turbulence due to power balancing and rivalries among the major powers, the two countries have been able to go through them peacefully and amicably through consultation and coordination. The Myanmar-Thai relations under the current Government have improved to an unprecedented degree and efforts need to be continued for their further improvement. Myanmar's adoption of the five principles of peaceful co-existence has also contributed to the building of warm and friendly relations between the two countries. The current circumstances have all the indications of broader and more successful cooperation in the future in such areas as politics, economics, security, culture, and science and technology. Long-term interests and goals of the two countries as well as stability and peace are being realized through good-neighbourly relations.

LOCAL NEWS

Foundation laid for Myanmar-India Highway

KALAY, 24 Sept—The ceremony to lay foundation for construction of Paletwa-Laki road section, a part of Myanmar-India Highway was held in border village Laki on 3 September.

It was attended by Mizoram State Chief Minister Pu Lal Thanhawla and the Public Health and

Tourism Minister. The chief minister formally opened the commemorative stone post.

Some people from 11 villages welcomed the chief minister and party at Myanmar gate.

“We are very happy. We have not even a road for bike, let alone the motor road. All

the villagers are happy for India-Myanmar Highway would pass our village,” a villager of Para village said.

The chief minister said the road would profit both Myanmar and Indian people, linking Saiha and Paletwa.

The highway is part of Kaladan Multi-Purpose Development Project and

will be funded by the Indian government.

Mizoram Public Works Department (MPWD) will implement the construction.

The Indian central government would fund 150 billion Rupees for the construction of 18-foot-wide road.

u

HRD

Mawlu residents want to give new life to library



MAWLU, 24 Sept—Local people in Mawlu village in Indaw Township in Katha District in Sagaing Region want to see their Pyinnya Alin Library up and running again.

The library was opened since 1998 and once crowded with readers.

Due to lack of input of new resources, it has been closed for a long time.

There is not even a librarian now and what is left of the library was the building with books kept unsystematically.

Mawlu area has 10 village-tracts, nine stations and 43 villages, translating into the wide range of readers.

The library could not be opened yet despite the fact there are donors to provide publications.—MMAL-149

Wheel chairs available on Dala-Pansodan jetties



Transport

YANGON, 24 Sept—Wheel chairs will be accessible for the persons with disabilities and the elder people at jetties on both Pansodan and Dala sides.

Four wheel chairs will be kept at the jetties for use on slopping lane to and from the vessel.

Wellwishers from Dala Township donated the wheel chairs which cost K 60,000 per unit.

The wheel chairs are available on request from the jetty authorities and it would be returned with the vessel they took.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Road in Mahlaing being upgraded

MAHLAING, 24 Sept—Juniorengineer(2) Daw Swe Swe Aung led the efforts to pave the Dhammayon road in No (3) ward in Mahlaing with gravel.

The upgrading started on 17 August and is estimated to cost K 6.2 million.

The road has the length of 1000 ft and the width of 2 ft.

The government is repairin and up radin roads and bridges in Mahlaing Township for smooth transportation.

Health Care Activity

Kunlong school health measures conducted

KUNLONG, 24 Sept—School health task was conducted in Aung Mingala Basic Education Primary School in Kunlong in Shan State on 17 September.

Health staff led by Head of District Health Department Dr Aung Tun Tin conducted medical checkups on 66 students.

They gave education talks on health, nutrition and personal hygiene and carried out the anti-

Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever measures.

The team made field trips monthly to schools and wards and has marked Holi Basic Education High School (branch) as its next stop.

MMAL-District IPRD

Mobile library reaches local communities in Pindaya

PINDAYA, 24 Sept—Mobile Library of Township Information and Public Relations Department in Danu Self-Administered Zone reached No (54) Basic Education Post-Primary School in Yechansin ward in Pindaya of the zone on 16 September, displaying

posters and organizing talks. It reached No (69) Basic Education Primary School in Kyauksu ward in Pindaya on 17 September.

It is expected to reach No (6) BEPS in Shan ward in Pindaya on 23 September.

MMAL-Moe Moe Htway (Pindaya)

Fingerlings released in natural waters in DaikU Tsp

PEINZALOK, 24 Sept—DaikU Township Fisheries Department released fingerlings into natural waters for the fourth time under the guidance of Bago Region Fisheries Department.

The ceremony to release 1,000,000 fingerlings was held at Kadok creek in Pauktabin village in DaikU Township on 13 September.

It was attended by Head

of Bago Region Fisheries Department U Kyaw Min, Head of District Fisheries Department U Sein Thauang, DaikU Township Administrator U Kyaw Swar Aung, Head of Township Fisheries Department U Soe Thein, village-tract administrators and officials of the Township Fisheries Federation.

e

e u t



Volunteers distribute anti-human trafficking pamphlets to passengers of Yangon-Dala vessel.—MMAL-THAN MAUNG (YANKIN)

Take Preventive Measures against Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever

Lamp-posts installed in Riverside Thammada ward in Dala

DALA, 24 Sept—Yangon Riverside ward Thammada of Dala Township installed self-reliant lamps for the safety at night on 20 September.

The effort to install concrete lamp-posts was led by ward administrator U Than Zaw Oo and staff of Township Electrical Department.

“In the dark at night, it is terrible to walk in the street. With lamps, there is less danger of snakes and other insect. I am happy (to have them). I am thankful,” a local said.

Lamp posts were installed in Dhammasedi, Anawrahta, Khatta, Tharaphi, Aungthabyae and Market streets. A total of 40 lamp posts were put into place.

MMAL-Than Htay (Dala)



Community-based anti-human trafficking campaign launched

YANGON, 24 Sept—an on e ion nti-Human Trafficking Group and UNIAP launched a community-based public awareness raising campaign in an on.

It was led by a group of active young volunteers.

Police Inspector Kyaw Htoo Aung and Police Inspector Kay Khaing Kyaw, police and students, totaling 20, distributed pamphlets

and hot line cards to the passengers.

Similar events would be initiated in railway stations and bus terminals within days.

Anti-human trafficking

efforts in Myanmar are being step up by anti-human trafficking squad of the Ministry of Home Affairs, UNIAP, UNICEF, IOM, World Vision International (Myanmar), Save the Children, AFXB, MTV Exit and Walk Free.

u

tt

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 25 September, 2013

Let's drink milk for health and intelligence

City dwellers are in the habit of having tea and coffee on a daily basis, and such culture has been deeply rooted in their society. However, the number of those who drink milk is still low. From the health point of view, it is said that having tea and coffee doesn't bring about as much benefit as drinking milk.

Daily drinking of milk helps enrich calcium in the body, thereby making bones strong and ensuring the body growing. Daily drinking of milk is highly recommended for the young people who are in the process of body growing. Daily drinking of milk can make their bones and joints strong and growing all the more.

The nationwide milk feeding campaign is being launched with the aim of producing healthy, fit and growing Myanmar citizens. Most of Asian countries have step up their involvement in school milk programmes for their citizens to be strong and grow and to keep abreast of those from the international community. In Myanmar also, school milk programme is being extensively introduced to schools in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw beginning this year. Here milk is fed to primary school students.

The 25 September is designated as the World School Milk Day. The Theme of this year's World School Milk Day is "Let's Drink Milk Daily for Health and Intelligence". This helps inspire the students to drink milk daily. Daily drinking of milk would make them healthy, strong and growing. Therefore, all the parents are to develop the habit of feeding milk to their offspring in order that the children are healthy, strong and growing.

Union Minister and party leave for Brunei to attend ASCC

YANGON, 24 Sept— Union Minister for Culture and Sports Myint Myint U were seen off at Yangon International Airport by the Director of National University of Arts and Culture and the Secretary of Brunei Embassy to Myanmar and responsible persons.—

MNHRC draft law discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept— The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) draft law proposed by the President Office was approved by Amyotaw Hla on 28-8-2013 and the law has been sent to the Pyitaw Hla. The Pyitaw Hla Bill Committee held its meeting at the Pyitaw Hla Office this afternoon to discuss the MNHRC draft law at the 8th Pyitaw Hla Meeting. Secretary of the Committee Saw La

NOT ONLY TO READ THE WORDS BUT THE WORLD

The perspectives of the few of Myanmar September, 2013 iterates who do not read sounded a clarion call to action for the educated who fail to read. After going through the whole perspectives, I would like to add that those who do not read are not only the neo-literates but also the newly-graduated.

The perspectives reminded me of the United Nations Secretary-General's message on International Literacy Day. In the message, the Secretary-General said, More than 3 million young people and adults around the world cannot read this message. They are among the ranks of our fellow citizens who have not yet attained full literacy skills... This means that over 3 million people cannot read this message because they are illiterate.

On the afternoon of the very International Literacy Day, as I read some graduates whose major subjects are English if they had read the message, they replied me no and not yet. While we were reading at college, we the students were competing with each other in reading books of the college library. I had to renew our borrower's cards of the library over and over again and the renewal made us take pride in reading. It is that we did not have a huge influx of reading materials in those days, we had to be satisfied with some dailies and periodicals we read every day. I feel sad that at the present reading materials are plentiful these days, most of the youths fail to read, making excuses.

In the post-independence era, only small percentage of the population in the community could read and write. In spite of the vital importance of literacy, a vast number of people remained illiterate. Even many adults in our surroundings in those days were unable to read and

write. When they wanted to send some letter to their relatives or when they received a letter, they looked to us to write or read the letter. Sometimes, when we read some stories to them, they felt like reading themselves.

When we came to launch literacy campaigns according to the records, a nationwide literacy movement began in 1955 and achieved successes. The literacy movement grew rapidly through mass campaigns launched in the townships of selected States and divisions.

In those days, the concept of literacy was that a literate person was the one who could read and write, without understanding a simple statement about his or her everyday life.

Then, times and systems have changed. The population of Myanmar is on the increase. And we have found ourselves in the knowledge era in which

literally help them read. They have enough time to read.

Regarding the literacy rate of Myanmar, although we are highly appreciated in this field, we cannot definitely answer such questions mentioned above. This is simply because we still need to make the neo-literates including adult literates read well. On the one hand, we still need to take follow-up measures which are to enhance the reading habit for the neo-literates. On the other, we are responsible to make our youngsters read more.

For our youths to enhance their calibre simply because our future world depends on them who will build the world anew. So far as youths are concerned, let's have a look at the situation.

As a result of the open-door policy and the arrival of foreign investors setting up businesses, the workplaces are opening up for

and other countries in the world.

Today, with the help of the computer, internet, e-mail and the information super-highway, it is encouraging that we are able to launch a new era of technology which will make us better equipped to reap the benefits in this field. To enjoy the fruits solely depends on today's youths who are well-versed in reading and writing.

If we look at the world today, we will find that the youths are now the rising power in the workplace. Large firms, companies, enterprises want to attract and keep a younger workforce because of its technical skills and enthusiasm for change. And change favours the young because they learn and return faster and will rise more to try new things.

Once, our late lamented writer Saw U Nin U said, "You must we say die in our time. So he said so because he wanted our youths to be well-efficient in every field."

We are nurturing the new generation as our forefathers did in their time to make sure that we can be entrusted with the tasks of continued national construction.

Our modern world is changing at an enormous rate. New things appear and die like mushrooms at the sprout for a day. It is knowledge era, a trustworthy new generation to whom we shall hand over the future nation must be capable of standing up to meet the challenges.

If we really want to make improvements to our country and the world then there is only a thing we must do.

It is just to make the youths of today read not only the words but the world.

My message to the next generation is: "Be Prepared"

Maung Hlaing

We are building a constant earning Society.

No one can deny that education is regarded as a guiding light in Myanmar society. One can overcome all hindrances and obstacles and prosper through education. Education is still being applied for the development of human society. It is for this reason that formal education, non-formal education and informal education are being launched for citizens regardless of age and education standard in line with the objective education or ill.

On 8 September this year, a ceremony to mark the International Literacy Day was successfully observed. According to the speech made by the Minister for Education on the occasion, we come to now that at adult literacy rate is 5.3 percent in Myanmar in 2013. Compared to other developing countries, the rate is very encouraging. However, do they really continue to read or they have enough reading materials who will system-

qualified managerial and other staff to manage the offices or to handle services. In many advertisements for job vacancies to be filled by local staff, there are stipulations for good calibre or high calibre qualifications. There is keen competition for any and all such vacancies with extra assets such as proficiency in more languages, being computer friendly and good public relations vying for good positions, pay and other prospects.

It is not only academic qualification that counts, for those seen in good obs must possess good local as well as general knowledge. In addition to knowing one's own subject well, youths must have read up a good deal on related subjects and on national, regional and international affairs. Current topics such as news items that come from various parts of the world, matters of national interest, greater involvement in regional affairs, emergence of commercial inter-

ATI AL

Union ministries, region state governments discuss budget allotment

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept— Union ministers and region state governments are to spend budgets to serve the interest of the people, said Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun at the second coordination meeting on budget affairs between Union ministries and region and state governments at the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, here, this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun said that the Union government allotted jobs to region and state governments that create job opportunities for the local people for social economic development of the entire people. In transforming the system, it is natural to face the idea and rules in overcoming difficulties and challenges. He urged Union ministries, region and state governments to place emphasis on national interest, State and national people interests in all fields of the tasks although the tasks are different in the fields.

Union Minister for Finance in Sein

pointed out that the allotted budgets must be acceptable ratio between the Union level or regions and region state governments in line with the provisions of the Constitution. It needs to consider the tasks to be carried out in 2014-15 financial year based on the allotments of budget in 2013-2014.

Union Minister for Planning explained it is necessary to consider findings on comparisons between proposed budgets 2014-2015 and 2013-2014 for Union ministries and region state governments, matters related to ratio of deficit and GDP, investment and GDP and total budget volume for investment in the State-owned sector. He stressed the need to carry out the tasks for foreign loans, cash assistance and help in line with the prescribed rules and regulations.

Central Officials and deputy ministers discussed financial matters in 2013-14 fiscal year with officials of the region and state governments.

The second-day meeting continues tomorrow.

Enhancing friendship and multisectoral collaboration between Myanmar, Thailand imperative

BANGKOK, 24 Sept— Speaker of Pyidaun su Hluttaw and Pyit u Hluttaw Ura Swe Mann accompanied by delegation members visited National Assembly and the House of Representatives of Thailand were held discussions with Mr. Somsak Kiatsuranont, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Thailand, yesterday.

In his remarks, the speaker gave a warm welcome to the Pyidaun su Hluttaw Speaker and delegation members, saying Myanmar's air borders with China and India will become a prosperous market in future thanks to the significance of its geographical position in the world and in Asia. It can be witnessed political reforms are in progress in Myanmar, speaking in words of praise on the legislative process being implemented in the parliament. Cooperation could lead the two parliaments to success, he added.

The Pyidaun su Hluttaw Speaker for his part said that the development of a certain nation lies with collaborative efforts between the people, the parliament and the government of the nation. He recalled the

sacrifices of Thai people for the sake of their own nation. He called for further cooperation between the two nations as they share similar topography. The delegation consists of parliamentarians from political parties, national races and Defence Services. Those in the parliament are carrying out the tasks for the sake of the nation and its citizens, without aving sectarianism, ideology, regionalism, racism and religion. There was a history in which U Nu and San started forming and in Thailand. There has also been an improved friendship and cooperation in the history of the two countries. He emphasized that Myanmar and Thailand are true friends and ancient bilateral friendship and amity and multisectoral collaboration between the two nations is imperative.

In the evening, the Speaker of Pyidaun su Hluttaw and Pyit u Hluttaw



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with President of the National Assembly of Thailand Mr. Somsak Kiatsuranont.—MNA

and delegation members attended a dinner hosted by Mr. Somsak Kiatsuranont, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of

the House of Representatives of Thailand at the Royal Ballroom of Mandarin Oriental.

Tatarstan President and party meet UMFCCI officials

YANGON, 24 Sept— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Aung Mye Thaw and members of Commerce and Industry in Union and responsible persons met a delegation comprising government executive officers and 16 entrepreneurs led by Mr. Rustam Minniyev, President of Tatarstan of

the Russian Federation, on the fourth floor of UMFCCI office, here, this morning.

In the call, they cordially discussed cooperation in trade and investment between Myanmar and Russia, assistance for Russian entrepreneurs in Myanmar businesses, construction of infrastruc-

tures in financial, service, agriculture, industry, aviation, mining, printing and electricity, investments in energy and oil exploration and mutual cooperation in businesses in Myanmar.

They also focused on signing of MoU on economic cooperation between MCCI and Tatarstan.—

Over 100 volunteers receive liaison skills for 27th SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept—Ministry of Sports has trained over 100 volunteers to serve as liaison officers during the upcoming 27th SEA Games.

Over 80 students from

the university of Agriculture in Yangon and 20 employees from Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Ministry of Information and Ministry of Transport are receiving the liaison skills at

the five-day training course held at the university. The course was opened with an opening address by Deputy Minister for Sports Law in today.

Myanmar, Japan to cooperate in education sector



Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung holds talks with MP Ms Eriko Yamatani of the House of Councilors of Japan.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept— Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung received a delegation led by MP Ms Eriko Yamatani of the House of Councilors of Japan at the ministry, here, yesterday afternoon.

At the call, the deputy minister explained present undertakings of the ministry and education reform process. They discussed exchange of scholarship students between the two countries, promotion of re-

lations and cooperation in education sector.

Also present at the call were Director-General Dr Myo Thein Gyi of Department of Myanmar Education Research Bureau and officials.—MNA



Liaison officers for 27th SEA Games at training session in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

REGIONAL



Chie Takano, a fourth year student at the Tohoku University of Art and Design, analyzes fibers used in a hina doll produced during the Edo period 1603-1868 with a microscope at a university laboratory in Yamagata, Yamagata Prefecture on 18 July, 2013.

KYODO NEWS

11,000 eastern Australia homes still without power after Sunday storm

SYDNEY, 24 Sept—More than 11,000 properties in eastern Australia, mainly in the south west, have been without power since a wild storm hit the state on Sunday, local media reported on Tuesday. The worst affected town is Manjimup with 3,000 homes and businesses blacked out. The towns of Augusta, Pemberton and Manup were

also hit by the wild weather. Western Power spokesman said generators were taken to Manjimup on Monday to restore power to essential services, including two aged-care homes, a waste water plant, a supermarket and a service station. Western Power is trying to restore electricity to its customers in the affected areas as soon as possible.—Xinhua

Residents wade through floodwaters brought by monsoon rains in Quezon City, the Philippines, on 23 Sept, 2013. Heavy monsoon rains flooded parts of Metro Manila and provinces.



Floods inundate a quarter of Thailand's provinces, warnings issued

BANGKOK, 24 Sept—More than 25 provinces have been affected by flooding since July and more than a quarter of Thailand's provinces have been inundated, prompting officials to issue landslide warnings and begin evacuation measures on Monday. Devastating floods in 2011 killed more than 800 people and caused massive disruption to industry, cutting economic growth that year to just 1.5 percent. Four people have been killed in this year's flooding. More rainfall is expected later this week. Due to a heavier-than-usual monsoon season, 20 provinces are now experiencing flooding. The government has issued a warning

about landslides and told boats in the Gulf of Thailand to be vigilant, Chatchai Promlert, chief of Thailand's Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, told Reuters. Parts of Yuttaya Province north of the capital, Bangkok, have been deluged by up to a metre of water, he said. Yuttaya town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site where several ancient temples were badly damaged in the 2011 floods. Many of the industrial estates in Yuttaya and other provinces on a plain north of Bangkok were inundated in 2011. At least 10 provinces in Thailand's central plains, the main rice-growing region, have been affected

by the floods but the extent of any damage is not yet known. The flooding has hit in the harvest season and output is likely to be affected, but there has been no official comment yet. Plodprasop Suraswadi, a deputy prime minister, said he was confident there would not be a repeat of the 2011 floods, which at one stage threatened to engulf Bangkok. Water levels in our dams are low enough to handle any extra rainfall, Plodprasop said. Municipal authorities have ordered sandbags stacked around shops and homes and extra water pumps have been installed in many areas.—Reuters

Cambodian ruling party still keeps parliament leadership positions for opposition: PM

PHNOM PENH, 24 Sept—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Tuesday that the door was still open for the opposition party to talk for some parliament leadership positions. The door is still open for the opposition to negotiate for the leadership positions in the national assembly, Hun Sen told reporters after a parliamentary session. He said the ruling party could provide the opposition party one position of parliament's deputy president, four positions of parliament's commission chairmen, and five positions of parliament's commission vice-chairmen. He wanted a negotiation, we want them to attend the meeting, he said. The premier said that if the opposition wants to talk for these positions, they have to take an oath of al-

liance at the Royal Palace first since they failed to do it on Monday due to their boycott of parliamentary opening session. The country held a general election on 28 July. The results showed that the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) of Prime Minister Hun Sen won 80 out of the 235 parliamentary seats and the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) of long-time opposition leader Sam Rainsy got 55 seats. But the opposition refused to accept the outcome and boycotted the opening session of the fifth legislature of the national assembly under the patronage of King Norodom Sihamoni on Monday. Under the country's constitution, a new government was formed by a 51 percent plus one majority, or 133 lawmakers, in the new



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen Front attends the parliamentary session in Phnom Penh on 24 Sept, 2013. Cambodian ruling party's 8 newly elected lawmakers on Tuesday elected Hun Sen as the prime minister of the new government despite the boycott of the opposition's lawmakers.—Xinhua

Landslides bury at least 11 in Philippines, eight missing

MANILA, 24 Sept—Landslides have buried at least 11 people in the Philippine province of Zamboanga following days of heavy monsoon rain, with eight people still missing, a government disaster agency official said on Monday. According to Office of Civil Defence officer Daniel Ontoc, the landslides occurred around 5 am on Monday in the towns of

Subic and San Marcelino, some 20 kilometres northwest of the capital Manila. Subic Mayor Jefferson Ronquillo said the Philippine Coast Guard and army have arrived to help the local rescue teams. The Coast Guard and army are here, helping in the search and rescue operations. The floods are still ongoing, he said in a radio interview.

According to media reports, several roads in the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority area have been blocked by landslides, leaving motorists stranded. Heavy rains since Sunday have disrupted life in Manila and the surrounding provinces, with schools and official buildings closed, and many flights cancelled. —Xinhua

Three more Moro rebels killed in S Philippines' Zambo City conflict

MANILA, 24 Sept—Three more Moro national liberation front (MNF) rebel fighters were killed on Monday by Philippine government forces in the continuing Zamboanga City conflict. The three MNLF

rebel fighters died in a firefight in Sta Catalina village at around 10 am in the morning as sporadic fighting continued, Philippine military spokesman for Zamboanga City said in a press

briefing in Camp Aguinaldo. There are some isolated exchanges of fires in Sta Catalina because our troops are now moving in to lessen the space where the MNLF Misuari faction is moving, he said.—Xinhua



Members of a Thai medical team produce prosthetic legs at the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 23 Sep, 2013. A 3 member Thai medical team on Sunday arrived in Dhaka to provide prosthetics to 100 Bangladeshi amputees, including 100 Rohingya victims. —Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

C AIMS DA TICE
M A IA -
 Consi nees of car o carried on M
 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into t e 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.

S IPPI A E C DEPA TME T
M A MAP T AUT IT
A E T MSB I T SAI S IPPI
TD

Phone No: 256924/256914

C AIMS DA TICE
M SEI SAPP I E EA 21
 Consi nees of car o carried on M SEIYO SAPPHIRE VOY NO (EAL 21) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.9.2013 and cargo will be **disc ar ed into t e 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.

S IPPI A E C DEPA TME T
M A MAP T AUT IT
A E T M SEASTE CA I E
S P E PTE TD

Phone No: 256924/256914

C AIMS DA TICE
M MA TE AMB 1 2
 Consi nees of car o carried on M MALTE M O VOY NO (1342) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.9.2013 and cargo will be **disc ar ed into t e 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.

S IPPI A E C DEPA TME T
M A MAP T AUT IT
A E T M SMCC-T A SP T SP E
PTE TD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

NOTICE FOR PREQUALIFICATION
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA) MYANMAR OFFICE
INVITATION TO PREQUALIFICATION FOR TENDER OF
THE PILOT PROJECT OF RESTORATION OF DALLA FERRY TERMINAL JETTY AT DALLA SIDE
UNDER THE URGENT PROJECT FOR REHABILITATION OF YANGON PORT
AND MAIN INLAND WATER TRANSPORT
IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Myanmar Office announces the prequalification for tender of the pilot project of RESTORATION OF DALLA FERRY TERMINAL JETTY AT DALLA SIDE, which consists of the following components:

No.	Item	Quantity	Remarks
1.	New Porter Way (East and West)	2	RC pile foundation with roof
2.	New Accessway	1	RC pile foundation
3.	New Steel Bridge	2	Steel structure with roof. Installation of the steel bridge.
4.	New Slipway	1	Pile foundation including staircase.
5.	Passenger Terminal Building (Demolish and Construct)	1	Footing foundation
6.	Concrete Coating of Pontoon	2	Steel Pontoon provided by others
7.	New Walkway	1	Concrete block and concrete pavement

The applicants shall be required:
 (1) To be either Myanmar or Japanese company
 (2) To be in the construction business at least 25 years with prescribed annual turnover
 (3) To have experiences in similar construction works (pile driving and jetty constructions)
 (4) To have at least prescribed number of in-house engineers
 (5) To own or be able to hire specialized construction equipment (piling equipment, concrete batch plant, and crane)

Prequalification documents are available from 10:00 to 15:00 on September 24th (Tue), 25th (Wed), 26th (Thu), and 27th (Fri) 2013 at the following JICA Myanmar office at a non-reimbursable cost of 10,000 Kyats per one set of documents.

JICA Myanmar Office:
 701, 7th Floor, Sakura Tower, No.339, Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar
 Contact: Mr. Maki Morikawa or U Win Ko Ko, Tel: (95-1) 255473 - 6

The complete application form should be submitted to the JICA Myanmar Office by 2:00 PM on October 11th (Fri), 2013.

oldsmiths' jewelry fair opens in london

LONDON, 24 Sept—The Goldsmiths' Fair 2013, the largest jewelry exhibition in Europe, was open in London on Monday, showcasing the creativeness and e uisite craftsmans ip of contemporary desi ners and makers from various parts of the world.
 The two-week event, the 31st of the kind, attracted 180 jewelry and silver designers and makers.

One of t e many oys of visiting the fair is to see many works with the subjects of commissioning, a collaboration between artist and patron, relating with birthday, wedding anniversary and other personnel important events.

Victoria Walker, a new exhibitor to the fair, demonstrated er uni ue designing of a locket featured with miniature articulated flowers that emerge and unfold from within. Her jewelry has attracted many visitors on the first day of the fair, especially young women.

Victoria Walker told a story of a Scottish couple who wanted to make a pendant to celebrate the birth of their daughter. She said the couple wanted something their daughter Oliver could treasure all her life.

"They had seen and liked one of my floral kinetic designs and, given their strong Scottish connection, requested a thistle locket," which is featured with the national flower of Scotland and a symbol of bravery, courage and protection, she said.

I ITATI TE DE

- TE DE B ID E BAI E 201 -201 PT ST 00**
1. Opened Tender is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for Purchasing of Compact Bailey Bridge Components.
 2. Tender application form (including Technical Specification, terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 100.
 3. The payment of tender application must be paid to Public Works' Account No. OA-010311, Myanmar Economic Bank (2), Yangon, through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
 4. The Tender document can be obtained from Bridge Division, Building No.(11), Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar only with the Cash Receipt delivered by Account Divison, Public Works, from the date of (25-9-2013) to (3-10-2013).
 5. Tender should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on (4-11-2013).
 6. For further detailed information, please contact to Telephone No. 067-407082, 407514.

Mana in irector
 Public Works

Global number of child labourers down by a third since 2000

GENEVA, 24 Sept—The global number of child labourers has declined by one third since 2000, but the rate of decline is not enough to achieve the goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016, said a report released on Monday by the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The new estimates in t is report indicated t at 168 million children worldwide were in child labour in 2012, accounting for almost 11 percent of the child population, down from 246 million in 2000.

The decline in child labour was greatest during t e most recent four-year period from 2008 to 2012 and the Asia-Pacific region registered by far the largest absolute decline in child labor among 5-17 year-olds for the 2008 to 2012, the report showed.

Children in hazardous work that directly endan-

gers their health, safety and moral development made up more than half of all child labourers, numbering 85 million, said the report.

Hazardous work is often treated as a pro y for the worst forms of child labour, since children in hazardous work account for the overwhelming majority of those in the worst forms, said the ILO.

The report showed that the largest absolute number of child labourers was found in the Asia-Pacific region with nearly 78 million, but Sub-Sa aran frica continued to be t e re ion with the highest incidence of child labour in terms of proportion of the population, at over 21 percent.

ILO Director-General Guy Ryder said the fight against child labour was moving in the right direction but progress was still too slow.



A man weaves a carpet at the 22th international hand woven carpet exhibition in Tehran, capital of Iran, on 23 Sept, 2013. The seven day long fair opened here on Monday.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Katy Perry praises Miley Cyrus

LOS ANGELES, 24 Sept—Pop star Katy Perry has praised singer-actress Miley Cyrus and said she would love to collaborate with the 23-year-old singer in the future, reported online.

She said of an incredible voice. Perry said.

Perry also voiced her support for Cyrus, who was recently criticised by a number of other artists including Pinkey, Justin Bieber and Jessie J, following her raucous performance at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York City last month.



Pop star Katy Perry

Russell Brand obsessed with Jemima Khan?

LONDON, 24 Sept—Comedian Russell Brand has reportedly become too fond of socialite Jemima Khan, which in turn is freeing her out.

The 38-year-old comedian fuelled dating rumours after he was pictured walking arm in arm with Khan on recent outings, reported the Daily Mail.

The socialite is reportedly finding Brand's growing affection as obsessive. "Jemima's started to get a bit freed out by Russell's relentless affection. She's described him as compulsive and obsessive, a source said.



Funnyman Russell Brand

"It's like he's addicted to her. She likes him but it's still too much, the source added. Brand, who was previously married to pop star Katy Perry, first met Khan two years ago, when he was writing an article for her magazine. Brand was previously married to Pakistani cricket politician Imran Khan and has two children with him.

Britain stops US pop singer's export of Jane Austen ring

LONDON, 24 Sept—A campaign to prevent US pop singer Kelly Clarkson from taking a ring owned by 19th-century novelist Jane Austen out of Britain has raised enough money to save it, a museum said on Monday.

The singer, who became the first contestant to win the American Idol more than a decade ago, bought the turquoise and gold antique ring at an auction last year for more than 5,000 pounds (\$22,000).

Culture Minister David Cameron placed a temporary export ban on the ring,



Kelly Clarkson performs "Don't Push" during the 48th A.M. Awards in Las Vegas on April, 2013. REUTERS

which stops it leaving the country, and appealed for a British buyer to come forward and save it for the nation.

Jane Austen's House Museum said a fundraising campaign had been successful and it could now afford to buy the ring that had been owned by the Austen family for more than 200 years until its sale at auction last year.

Curator Mary Wyatt said the campaign received a 10,000-pound donation from an anonymous donor and contributions from Austen fans from all over the world.

The museum is now able to reveal that their offer to purchase the ring has been accepted, she said in a statement.

The ring is one of only three surviving pieces of jewellery known to have belonged to the author of such classics as Pride and Prejudice, Sense and Sensibility and Emma. It comes with papers documenting its history within her family. Clarkson congratulated the museum on raising the funds to purchase the ring owned by the writer who died in 1817.

Reuters

US singer Jason Derulo's 'Talk a Dirty Game' tops British singles chart

LONDON, 24 Sept—American singer Jason Derulo noted up his third number one single on Sunday with "Talk a Dirty Game", ending his two-week run in the No. 1 slot, sales figures showed.

The Official Charts Company said with sales of nearly 100,000 copies over the past week, "Talk a Dirty Game" became the fastest-selling single of Derulo's career in Britain and the fourth fastest-selling single of 2013.

"Talk a Dirty Game" also features rapper 2 Chainz, is the second single from Derulo's third

album, "Future", which will be released in Britain on Monday.

Perry's "Roar", which follows her previous hit "We Can't Stop", fell one place to No. 2 while British singer-songwriter Jessie J was new in at No. 3 with "It's My Party".

The American rock band OneRepublic dropped two places to No. 4 with "Counting Stars", while Swedish pop duo Jaxx too up two places in the top 10 with "Ma Me Me" entering new at No. 5 and former chart-topper "I'm a Slave 4 U" in sixth place.

Monday's top spot in the British charts

for a second week with "M.I.A.", after setting a new chart record last week end by becoming the first independent act to have five No. 1 studio albums in a row.

The band from Sheffield, England, fought off tough competition from Avicii and Britain's Elton John to hold onto the top position for a second week. Avicii scored the week's highest new entry with his debut album, "True", entering the albums chart at No. 2.

Justin Bieber was new in at No. 3 with his 3rd studio album, "Believe".

The rock band Manic Street Preachers were new in at No. 4 with



Singer Jason Derulo performs at the 2013 Wango Tango concert at the Home Depot Center in Carson, California on 11 May, 2013.—REUTERS

the week's Top 5 with "I'm a Slave 4 U".—Reuters

SPORTS

Australia coach sieck dumps veteran keeper Scharrer



Australia's coach Ange Postecoglou celebrates during their 2011 Asian Cup semi-final soccer match against Uzbekistan at Khalifa stadium in Doha on 2 Jan, 2011.—REUTERS

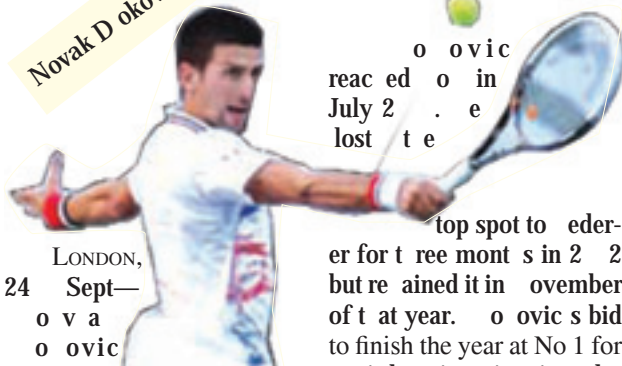
Under-fire Australia coach Ange Postecoglou has dumped veteran goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer for friendlies against France and Canada after the Socceroos led goals in a humiliating defeat by World Cup hosts France earlier this month.

Australia's most capped player with 107 international matches and a fixture in front of the Socceroos goal for nearly 20 years, Schwarzer's omission is a blow to the 40-year-old's hopes of finishing his international career on a high note at the World Cup finals.

Postecoglou, who plays for the Russian national team, and Melbourne-based Mat Ryan are two keepers in a 24-man squad named on Tuesday.

Postecoglou steered Australia to a record 10th place in the 2011 Asian Cup.

Novak Djokovic reaches 100th week at No 1 in rankings



Novak Djokovic

Djokovic reached No. 1 in the ATP rankings for the 100th week on July 22, after losing to Andy Murray in the final of the Wimbledon tournament.

LONDON, 24 Sept—Novak Djokovic is on his way to becoming the first man to reach the top spot to defend for three months in 2013 but retained it in November of that year. Djokovic's bid to finish the year at No. 1 for a third straight time is under serious threat from Nadal. Djokovic has 20 titles, while Nadal has 18. Both are entered in next week's China Open, where Djokovic will be defending his title and Nadal has no points to defend. Nadal can get to No. 1 for the first time since July 2, 2008, by reaching the final.

Profitable Arsenal prepared to spend again

LONDON, 24 Sept—Premier League leaders Arsenal are prepared to spend more on their squad after the record signing of German playmaker Mesut Ozil, the club's chairman said on Monday.

The arrival of Ozil for 42.5 million pounds (\$80 million) at the start of the month has lifted the mood among supporters and at the departure of striker Robin van Persie and Cesc Fabregas over the past two years. Arsenal have not won a trophy since 2005 and some fans of the north London club questioned the club's ambition under Stan Kroenke, the American sports entrepreneur who is its majority shareholder.

Chief executive, when he became Arsenal chairman in June, said manager Arsene Wenger would be given more money to spend

as he reported another season of financial profit for the club. But the Ozil transfer, which he believes we have made a significant statement and when Arsene decides the time is right to invest again, Stan Kroenke, myself and the rest of the board will be delighted to support him, Swic said in a statement.

Swic said Arsenal would stick to their principles of running a financially sustainable club and developing young players but said their ambitions would not be questioned.

Wenger has a controlling interest in Stan Kroenke and a board which is united in our resolve to keep Arsenal Football Club at the pinnacle of the game both here and in Europe.

The sale of striker Arjen Robben to Manchester United helped Arsenal remain



Manchester United's Robin van Persie celebrates scoring against Arsenal during their Champions League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 1 Sept, 2013. REUTERS

in profit in 2012-13. On the pitch, United won a record 20th Premier League title, helped by 26 goals from Dutchman Arjen Robben and Persie.

Arsenal finished fourth to clinch a spot in the lucrative Champions League for a third successive season. Profit before tax was 10.5 million pounds in the year to the end of May, down from 30.5 million a year earlier, Arsenal said.

The club made a 4 million pound profit on the sale of an Arsenal player, the midfielder who moved to Barcelona. However, the club said it had invested 58 million pounds

on buying new players and extending contracts, before the additional spending on Ozil. Arsenal currently lead the Premier League on goal difference from rivals Tottenham Hotspur. Reuters

Mata urged to follow Ronaldo's example

LONDON, 24 Sept—Juan Mata has been urged to follow Cristiano Ronaldo's example and broaden his skill set under Jose Mourinho in order to force his way back into the side, Chelsea assistant coach Steve Holland said on Monday. The Spain midfielder, voted Player of the Year in the last two seasons, has been used sparingly by Mourinho, but Holland thinks he is capable of altering his game to fit into the manager's plans.

Ronaldo is a player we have always really admired, but in his three-year period working with Jose he really evolved as an individual, Holland told the club's website.

He is not just a talented dribbler who can

score goals, he has become a top-level match winner who wants to make runs in behind and to threaten the goal, he added.

Jose is always pushing the players to the maximum every day, and that is evident not just in the teams but in the individuals he has worked with.

Holland, who has worked at Chelsea under Carlo Ancelotti, Andre Villas-Boas and Rafael Fabregas, noted previous examples of Mourinho altering players' style to suit his tactics.

He will also never forget the game against Chelsea when Jose was the coach of Inter, Holland said.

Pandev, Milito, Torres and Schneider were the front four. Three of those



Chelsea's manager Jose Mourinho prepares to bring on substitute Juan Mata during their Champions League soccer match against Arsenal at Stamford Bridge in London on 18 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

were strikers and one is a number 10, so a very creative team to come to Chelsea away and yet they worked like robots the four of them, we have never seen attacking players work so hard, he added.

Mata's opportunities have been limited and Mourinho referred to the Spaniard's defensive limi-

tations after Chelsea's defeat by Arsenal in the Champions League.

Jose is quite clear in his mind even though success is ahead. He knows the recipe for success and he feels that is the way forward for us this year, Holland added. It is not particularly difficult to adapt to in particular new areas. —Reuters

Balotelli gets three-match ban for red card



MILAN, 24 Sept—AC Milan's Mario Balotelli touched his knee as he sits on the pitch during the match against Napoli in their Italian Serie A soccer match at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 22 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

MILAN, 24 Sept—AC Milan striker Mario Balotelli has been given a three-match ban for his sending-off at the end of Sunday's 2-0 home defeat by Napoli, the Italian league said in a statement on Monday.

Balotelli, who missed a penalty and scored a late goal in the game, was given a second yellow card after the final whistle for arguing with match officials.

In addition to the

automatic one-match ban, he was given an additional two games for direct insults and intimidating expressions to the referee at the time of the sending-off, said the league in a statement.

AC Milan were also ordered to partially close the San Siro stadium for their next home game because of insulting chants by their fans aimed at Napoli supporters. The disciplinary tribunals said the chanting expressed discrimination based on their territorial origins. Reuters

GENERAL

Woods and Stenson nominated for Player of the Year award

ATLANTA, 24 Sept— Tiger Woods, Adam Scott and Henrik Stenson are among the five nominees for the PGA Tour's Player of the Year award, the tour said on Monday.

British Open winner Phil Mickelson and fellow American Matt Kuchar, who finished third on the money list, have also been nominated for the honour, known as the Jack Nicklaus Award.

Woods won five times on the tour this year, including the Players Championship and two World Championship events, and finished second in the FedEx Cup behind Swede Stenson.

Woods won the Arnold Palmer Award as the tour's official money winner after collecting \$8.5 million.

Woods had the most successful year, Stenson ended it in spectacular style with two FedEx Cup



Tiger Woods of the US watches his tee shot on the third hole in the final round of the Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta, Georgia on 22 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

victories including Sunday's Open Championship, which secured him the Cup.

Australian Scott won the Masters and the Barclays and finished fourth in the FedEx Cup after six top-ten finishes in the season.

American Jordan Spieth is widely expected to win the trophy after his nine top-ten finishes which earned him a place in the United States Presidents Cup team.

Meanwhile, Russell Henley and Adam Longmire have also been nominated for the rookie prize.

Most awards are determined by a member vote, with PGA members who played in at least two official money events in 2013 eligible to vote.

The winners of the respective awards will be announced on Friday, 2 September.—Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(25-9-2013, Wednesday)

Table with TV program listings for Myanmar TV on Wednesday, 25-9-2013. Columns include time slots (e.g., 00 am, 05 am, 10 00 am) and program titles (e.g., Parittayilly, Physical Exercise, Sin Son, Myanmar Music Group).

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

25-9-2013, Wednesday, 00 am MST

Table with Myanmar International program listings. Columns include time slots (e.g., 00 am, 05 am, 10 00 am) and program titles (e.g., Local News, Memory in Pain, World News, Myanmar Music Group).



A man named Shao Wenchang harvests broomcorns using a reaping machine in Yunnan Province, on 23 Sept, 2013. Broomcorn reaping has entered harvest season recently. XINHUA

Chinese entrepreneur wins U.S. Global Drylands Champions award

WINDHOEK, 24 Sept— The founder of a Chinese enterprise was honored on Monday with the Global Drylands Champions award by a special body on anti-desertification.

Wang Jianbiao, chairman of the Lion Resources Group in China and also a member of the standing committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, has spent the last 25 years in combating desertification in the Kubuqi desert.

Wang received the award at a gala dinner party held on the sidelines of the 10th Conference of the Parties COP to the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), which

opened here on Sept. The Global Drylands Champions award is a UN-CCD initiative that recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the CCD process and leadership in sustainable land management, especially in the drylands.

At the awarding ceremony, Wang said his Lion Resources Group has turned more than 5,000 square miles of the Kubuqi desert into green lands, an equivalent of 0.43 percent of the global desertification area.

Wang stressed that only through the joint efforts of the government, businesses, individuals and the civil society, can the arduous task of combating desertification be achieved successfully. UN

Powerful Oracle

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Sept—Oracle Team USA moved a step closer to winning the America's Cup on Monday, winning the day's only race and yet again preventing Team New Zealand from clinching the trophy.

It was the fifth straight victory for the team owned by billionaire Larry Ellison, which a week ago seemed likely it was about to lose the world's oldest sporting trophy but now looks strong enough to win the series - as long as it can keep the iwis from winning one more race.

Team New Zealand appeared to have the advantage at the start of the race, crossing the line slightly ahead. But Oracle was quicker to rise up on its foils and accelerate, passing the iwis to windward and preventing them

Oracle moves a step closer to winning America's Cup

from getting a right-of-way bloc in position at the start. Team New Zealand never recovered, despite losing a second, larger rib for more downwind speed, and finished 33 seconds behind the Oracle iwi boat.

The iwis were relativelyappy with the way they

performed but they managed to get a bit of momentum at the start. The little bit of frustration, said Team New Zealand skipper Dean Barker. The Oracle guys had a polished race at the time and there were no opportunities to get back into it.

The Oracle wind delayed the start of the race on Monday



Oracle Team USA holds a lead against Team New Zealand during race 1 of the 34th America's Cup yacht sailing race in San Francisco, California on 23 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

and not enough time was left for a second scheduled race. Two more races are scheduled for Tuesday.

After struggling to keep up with Team New Zealand in the early matches of the final series, Oracle made changes to its AC2 catamaran and improved its execution of maneuvers. The newly found competitiveness has set the stage for a historic comeback.

Team New Zealand's point advantage over Oracle has fallen to 8- in the best-of- series. Oracle now needs to win three straight races to keep the Cup, while Team New Zealand needs just one to take it home. On the water, Oracle has won eight races, the same as Team New Zealand, but its first two wins were negated by a beating penalty before the finals began.—Reuters

