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President U Thein Sein receives The Elders

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein held talks today with The Elders led by former US President Mr Jimmy Carter and two other members of The Elders on peace-making process, constitutional amendments, efforts for coexistence of two communities in Rakhine State and efforts to release all prisoners of conscience by 2013.

During the meeting at the Presidential Palace here, President U Thein Sein expressed thanks to The Elders for their humanitarian efforts.

He said the government is making efforts for reaching peace agreement covering across the country in the near future, noting that there were achievements and challenges in making peace with armed groups and gunshots have already fallen silent in



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with former US President and Noble Laureate Mr Jimmy Carter, former Finnish President and Noble Laureate Mr Martti Ahtisaari and former Prime Minister of Norway Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland.—MNA

nearly half of area of the country, bringing fruits of

peace to border areas. The country has reached cease-

fire with armed groups, it still needs to hold political

dialogues to gain eternal peace, he said.

The President also sought advice from the Elders for the ongoing peace making process.

They also discussed matters on amendments of the constitution, efforts for improvement of education, health and child care, livelihood and socio-economy of the two communities in Rakhine State and releasing all prisoners of conscience by the end of this year.

The delegation of the Elders led by Noble Laureate Mr Jimmy Carter comprises former Finnish President and Noble Laureate Mr Martti Ahtisaari and former Prime Minister of Norway Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Soe Thane and U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and officials.

MNA

Myanmar, Thailand hold coord meeting on implementation of Dawei SEZ, related projects



Preliminary work coordination meeting on implementation of Dawei Special Economic Zone and related projects in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 25 Sept—Myanmar and Thailand held a preliminary work coordination meeting at Embassy of Thailand, here, this afternoon.

The meeting was held prior to the First Myanmar-Thailand-Japan tripartite

coordination meeting and focused on follow-up tasks for implementation of Dawei Special Economic Zone and related projects.

It was attended by chairman of work committee for implementation of Dawei SEZ and related projects and

Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Aye Myint, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko, chairman of management committee and Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein, chairmen of sub-committee and Dep-

uty Ministers U Myo Aung, Dr Maung Maung Thein, U Soe Tint and U Phone Swe, Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Set Aung and a Thai delegation led by the Assistant Chief Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Thailand.

The meeting focused on formation of a special work committee, matters related to signing of agreement on implementation of Dawei SEZ, works to be done by Dawei SEZ management committee, special work committee and Italian-Thai Company and relocation works of Dawei SEZ, and reviewed relocation works regarding Thilawa SEZ.

A work coordination meeting between Myanmar and Japan on implementation of Dawei SEZ and the First Myanmar-Thailand-Japan tripartite work coordination meeting will be held in Yangon tomorrow and on 27 September.

MNA

U Ye Myint Aung accredited to the Philippines

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Ye Myint Aung, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to

the United Nations Office and other International Organizations, Geneva, Switzerland, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of the Philippines.—MNA

U Aye Khaing appointed as ambassador to Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Aye Khaing, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

to the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the State of Kuwait.

MNA

U Kyaw Zwar Minn appointed as Ambassador to United Kingdom and Northern Ireland

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Zwar Minn, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to

the French Republic, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

MNA

Agriculture

Production of quality paddy strains demonstrated

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 25 Sept—The demonstration on weeding and taking out different strains was held at the private farmland in Phuhti Model Village of Mawlamyinegyun Township for production of quality paddy saplings on 15 September morning.

In-charge of District Seeds Production Daw Khin Yi and party of Labutta District Agriculture Department demonstrated the ways of weeding and taking out of different paddy strains in the farmland to 47 farmers from village and 18 staff from Township

Agriculture Department.

The farmers who attended the demonstration could widen the scope of knowledge to successful produce quality paddy strains and distribute them to the surrounding villages.—*Kyemon-Mawgyun Myint Aung*



Mandalay Region government supplies electricity to 370 villages

MANDALAY, 25 Sept—During the 30 months period, Mandalay Region Government has supplied electricity to 370 villages in the region, and 292 villages could be illuminated through a self-reliant basis. So far, the region has supplied electricity to 2555 villages. A total of 2225 villages need to be supplied electricity in the region.

Of them, 779 villages are located in the two-mile distance of national grid, so assistance will be provided to the villages

for implementing the electrification plan on a self-reliant basis.

For remaining 1446 villages, electrification will be undertaken through solar panel, diesel engine and hydropower systems. Depending on demands of the people, the plans will be implemented for electrification of the villages by 2014, said Mandalay Region Minister for Electric and Industry Dr Myint Kyu at the Region Hluttaw session on 23 September.—*Kyemon-Aye Mya (Mandalay)*



Buses from No 33rd and No 210th bus lines bumped into each other at corner of Theinbyu and Maha Bandoola Streets at 9.35 am on 23 September. One passenger each from buses were injured in the incident. The bus from No 210th bus line hit a tree again in front of YMCA building.—THANT ZIN WIN-NLM

APBCCC to submit plan to emerge bus terminals

YANGON, 25 Sept—Facts and figures on terminals will be studies and the plans will be submitted to the authorities concerned for emergence of terminals, according to the Yangon Region All Private Bus-line Control Committee.

Chairman of the committee U Hla Aung said that some bus lines could open the terminals for their buses including Parami, Shwe Ethe lines and a few others. For example, Dagon University has inadequate plot for the buses. Bus owners cannot place their buses at home. Most of the buses from the committee spend the night at the home of the bus owners.

The chairman continued that bus terminals were constructed by private and public companies through contracts. The committee will submit the reports on preparations for drawing the law of the committee.

The All Private Bus Line Control Committee was formed at Kyaikkasan Grounds in Tamway Township in 1962. As the vehicles were put under management of the committee after 2008, the All Private Bus Line Central Control Committee was formed in 2009, and it came to operation

Development plans to be implemented in Panglon Sub-Township

PANGLON, 25 Sept—With the aim of fulfilling the requirements of the local people in development and poverty alleviation tasks of Panglon Sub-Township of Hopan District of “Wa” Self-Administered Division, member of the leading body U Sai Hla Pe on 18 September explained development plans instructed by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and

Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann on his visit to Hopan on 4 September.

Ward and village administrators of eight wards and five village-tracts of the sub-township and town selders reported on installation of hydropower power station and solar panels for electrification of the village, sinking tube-wells, digging lakes and building water tanks

for availability of drinking water, supply of desks, roofs and walls for schools, providing of medicines and equipment to village dispensaries, repairing of drains, bridges and water pipelines and upgrading of inter-village roads. Officials and supporting committee members attended to the needs.

Kyemon-Township IPRD

Plan to develop Hopong Township

HOPONG, 25 Sept—A meeting among Amyotha Hluttaw representative, Pyithu Hluttaw representative, state Hluttaw representatives, township departmental officials, township development supportive committee, ward administrators and town selders was held at the town hall in Hopong of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone on 17 September afternoon.

Chairman of the Leading Body of the Zone U Khun

San Lwin in his address said that the committee is undertaking electrification and water supply for the zone in financial years. The leading body is striving for gaining legislative power. The local authorities and social organizations are to join hands in regional development tasks in harmony.

Hopong Township Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Nay Win Tun said that natural resources are to be utilized in the interest of the people, and agricultural tasks are to be carried out through modern techniques for development of agriculture sector.

Hopong Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Thein Pe explained that education, health, communication and transport sectors are being undertaken as a project for development of three townships from self-administered zone. The wishes of the local people will be submitted to the Hluttaw, he added.

Next, the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, and the chairman of the leading body of the zone reviewed the discussions of the local people and attendees.

Kyemon-Township IPRD

Laivar Dam, source of hydropower for Haka, Thantlang



HAKA, 25 Sept—Laivar Dam launched the generating hydropower on 6 April 1994 to supply electricity to Haka and Thantlang townships of Chin State.

The dam is located 21 miles from Falam-Haka Road, southwest of Falam. The dam has 3.24 square

miles of watershed area, and the turbine can pump out 16.24 cubic-feet per sec.

The dam was installed with two China-made turbines to generate 600 kilowatts for regiments, departments, 11 wards and three villages in Haka Township and three

wards and four villages in Thantlang Township.

The dam is 18 miles distance to Haka and 16 miles to Thantlang. As Haka is location of government office, Laivar Hydropower Station is generating electricity to the township as first priority.

Kyemon-Lin Let Kyei Sin

WORLD

Obama says diplomatic path toward Iran must be tested

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept—US President Barack Obama told the UN General Assembly on Tuesday that there should be a basis for an agreement on Iran's nuclear ambitions but that the roadblocks will be difficult to overcome.

In an address laying out US policy toward the volatile Middle East and North Africa, Obama made clear that the United States will take direct action to eliminate threats

when necessary and will use military force when diplomacy fails.

Obama, in closely watched remarks on Iran based on a diplomatic opening offered by Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani, said the United States wants to resolve the Iran nuclear issue peacefully but is determined to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. "The roadblocks may prove to be too great but I firmly believe the dip-



United States President Barack Obama addresses the 68th United Nations General Assembly in New York, on 24 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

lomatic path must be tested," Obama said.

He urged the UN Security Council to approve a strong resolution aimed at ensuring Syria keeps

its commitments to give up chemical weapons and said the United States will provide an additional \$340 million in humanitarian aid.—Reuters

At UN, Brazil's Rousseff blasts US spying as breach of law

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept—Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff used her position as the opening speaker at the UN General Assembly to accuse the United States of violating human rights and international law through espionage that included spying on her email.

Rousseff had expressed her displeasure last week

by calling off a high-profile state visit to the United States scheduled for October over reports that the US National Security Agency had been spying on Brazil.

In unusually strong language, Rousseff launched a blistering attack on US surveillance, calling it an affront to Brazilian sovereignty and "totally unacceptable." "Tampering in such

a manner in the lives and affairs of other countries is a breach of international law and, as such, it is an affront to the principles that should otherwise govern relations among countries, especially among friendly nations," Rousseff told the annual gathering of world leaders at the United Nations.

She also proposed an international framework for governing the Internet and said Brazil would adopt legislation and technology to protect it from illegal interception of communications. "Information and telecommunication technologies cannot be the new battlefield between states. Time is ripe to create the conditions to prevent cyberspace from being used as a weapon of war, through espionage, sabotage, and attacks against systems and infrastructure of other countries," Rousseff said.

US President Barack Obama was en route to the United Nations while Rousseff spoke. Speaking immediately after Rousseff, he avoided direct reference to her criticism.

"We have begun to review the way that we gather intelligence, so as to properly balance the legitimate security concerns of our citizens and allies, with the privacy concerns that all people share," said Obama, who concentrated mostly on the crisis in Syria and the prospects for a diplomatic opening with Iran.

Rousseff rejected the US government reasoning that the NSA surveillance was aimed at detecting suspected terrorist activity and she accused the agency of engaging in industrial espionage.—Reuters

Iran's Rouhani calls for 'consistent voice' from US on nuclear issue

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept—Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani, expressed hope on Tuesday that US President Barack Obama would not be swayed by "warmongering pressure groups" at home in dealing with the Iranian nuclear dispute and called for a consistent voice from Washington on the issue.

Speaking to the United Nations General Assembly hours after Obama addressed the annual gathering of world leaders, Rouhani said he was prepared to engage in "time-bound and results-oriented"

States and hoping that they will refrain from following the short-sighted interest of warmongering pressure groups, we can arrive at a framework to manage our differences."

"To this end, equal footing, mutual respect and the recognized principles of international law should govern the interactions," he said. "Of course, we expect to hear a consistent voice from Washington."

A potential encounter at the United Nations between Obama and Rouhani failed to take place on Tuesday as the Iranians indicated it was too



Iran's President Hassan Rouhani talks to a United Nations official as he departs after concluding his address to the 68th United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters in New York, on 24 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

nuclear talks and did not seek to increase tensions with the United States.

"I listened carefully to the statement made by President Obama today at the General Assembly," he said. "Commensurate with the political will of the leadership in the United

complicated, senior Obama administration officials said.

US Deputy UN Ambassador Rosemary DiCarlo was seated at the US table while Rouhani spoke. Earlier, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was present for Obama's speech.

Reuters

No time frame preset for decision on collective self-defence: Abe

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Tuesday he does not have a specific time frame in mind to decide whether to lift the country's self-imposed ban on exercising the right of collective self-defence.

"At the moment, I don't intend to say until when (a conclusion will be reached)," Abe told reporters accompanying him in New York where he is scheduled to attend the UN General Assembly.

Even if the right was to be exercised, the prime minister also said that protecting the lives of Japanese people and property as well as national interests should be considered

and that geography is not the determining factor for the Self-Defence Forces to be dispatched amid debate about whether the SDF should go to countries "half a world away."

After taking office in December, Abe resumed a government panel to discuss whether to allow Japan to exercise the right of collective self-defence, or coming to the aid of an ally under armed attack, with its final report expected by year-end.

On the economic front, Abe said he has "yet to decide on whether to raise the sales tax at present," but added "we need to take steps for low-income earners if the sales tax is raised."

Abe is expected to decide on 1 Oct whether to raise the sales tax rate in April next year as planned after weighing the strength of the domestic economy against the need for fiscal restoration. The prime minister also expressed willingness to "support companies raising wages" under the tax system.

Under legislation enacted last year, Japan is set to raise the tax to 8 percent from the current 5 percent, and to 10 percent in October 2015 to secure funds for swelling welfare costs. The government is now compiling an economic package in an apparent bid to soften the impact of the planned tax hike.—Kyodo News



Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff addresses the 68th United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters in New York, on 24 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

More than 230 killed in major earthquake in Pakistan

QUETTA, (Pakistan), 25 Sept—The death toll from a powerful earthquake in Pakistan climbed to more than 230 on Wednesday after hundreds of mud houses

collapsed on their inhabitants throughout the remote and thinly populated area, officials said. Pakistan's army airlifted hundreds of soldiers to help with the aftermath of

the worst earthquake in the South Asian country since 2005 when about 75,000 people were killed in the north of the country.

The Tuesday earthquake, measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale, struck Baluchistan, a huge earthquake-prone province of deserts and rugged mountains, and was felt across South Asia.

It destroyed houses and cut communications with the worst affected district of Awaran, and was so powerful that it caused a small island to emerge from the sea just off the Pakistani coastline in the Arabian Sea.

Reuters



Survivors of an earthquake walk on rubble of a mud house after it collapsed following the quake in the town of Awaran, southwestern Pakistani province of Baluchistan, on 25 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



China's smartphone shipments expected to exceed 450 million in 2014: IDC

BEIJING, 25 Sept—The world's biggest smartphone market China will likely ship in more than 450 million devices in 2014, at least a quarter more than this year, research firm IDC said. IDC said the increase will be driven by the government's issuance of 4G licences and expectations that China Mobile Ltd, the world's biggest wireless operator, would carry iPhones by then. China, a market dominated by Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and Lenovo Group Ltd is expected to ship 120 million 4G-enabled smartphones to meet consumer demand for Internet connectivity.

Smartphone shipments

are expected to reach 360 million this year, IDC said.

In the second quarter, Samsung and Lenovo maintained their lead in China with market shares of 18.5 percent and 9.8 percent respectively, while China Wireless Technologies Ltd's Coolpad moved up a notch from the previous quarter to rank No3.

Apple Inc's iPhones saw market share and ranking fall to 5 percent and No.6 in the second quarter, from 9 percent and No5 a quarter ago, IDC analysts said. The US technology giant's market share usually slips a quarter or two before its next product launch.

Reuters

New cargo ship's docking at space station delayed to Saturday

CAPE CANVERAL, 25 Sept —A traffic jam at the International Space Station is prompting a second delay in the arrival of a new commercial cargo ship that is making a test run to the orbital outpost, officials said on Monday.

The docking of the Cygnus freighter was retargeted for Saturday to avoid conflicting with Wednesday's scheduled arrival of new crew members at the space station.

Orbital Sciences originally had planned to fly the Cygnus to the station on

Sunday following four days of maneuvers and communications tests. A problem processing navigation data from the space station early on Sunday forced the rendezvous to be rescheduled for Tuesday.

Resolving the problem with a software fix left Orbital Sciences with a tight schedule to rendezvous and dock the Cygnus capsule at the space station before the Wednesday arrival of a Russian Soyuz spaceship carrying three new crew members.

Reuters

Russia's Megafon in talks to start bank

Moscow, 25 Sept—Megafon, Russia's second-largest mobile phone company, may start up a bank to capitalize on growing interest among consumers in managing their finances on-the-go and to cross-sell services to existing customers.

Russian mobile operators, trying to boost profits in a maturing market, have been searching for avenues to earn more from their subscriber base.

Megafon would be following Russia's top mobile phone operator MTS, which this year bought a stake in a bank from its parent company Sistema.

"We are discussing—we don't have a decision—creating a Megafon bank," CEO Ivan Tavrin told the Reuters Russia Investment Summit. "We are very (focused) on value-added

services. There are many (new) things we can do inside our industry."

Tavrin said Megafon would prefer to buy a small bank rather than acquire a banking license, which would likely take more time, and said the firm was already talking to some

small lenders. He said he would consider buying a bank which does not have large operations or a branch network.

He is planning to discuss the strategy with Megafon's board later this year.

"The quality of credit (of our customers) and ser-

vices we would give is an absolute priority for us," Tavrin said. "We would not look to get the lion's share of the (consumer credit) market. For us, the quality will be much more important than the quantity."

MTS, the first Russian telecoms operator to move into banking, expects financial services to account for up to 5 percent of its total net profit by 2017.

Reuters



Ivan Tavrin, CEO of Russian mobile operator Megafon, speaks during an interview at the Reuters Investment Summit in Moscow on 23 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

BlackBerry? Like, so not cool, say young users

LONDON, 25 Sept— If you want to know how BlackBerry lost its mojo in a major consumer market, spend some time with a bunch of British teens.

The phone that once so dominated the UK youth market that its messaging service BBM was even blamed for helping to connect young rioters who fought police and wrecked shops in London and other cities in 2011, has now lost its cool. BlackBerry has been usurped by Apple and

Android-run phones, and BBM has been eclipsed by the emergence of free messaging apps that work across a range of devices.

"I use WhatsApp and Kik with all my friends and family. You can use these on any device even if you can't afford an iPhone," said 14-year-old Euan McPhillips, a schoolboy from Gerrards Cross, just north of London.

US-based WhatsApp and Canada's Kik Interactive are two of five major

"cross-platform" messaging services that have built up big followings and which are also being tipped as the next big takeover targets for the likes of Facebook and Yahoo.

The three others are WeChat in China, developed by Internet company Tencent Holdings Ltd and promoted by Argentine footballer Lionel Messi; South Korea's KakaoTalk, run by privately-held Kakao Corp; and Japan-based Line, a unit of Naver Corp of South Korea.

The grandfather of the group, WhatsApp, created by two ex-Yahoo engineers in 2009, has more than 300 million users and processes 31 billion messages a day, a spokeswoman told Reuters, making it bigger than Twitter in terms of active users. That compares with BBM's 10 billion messages a day.

Reuters



The company logo is seen at the BlackBerry campus in Waterloo, on 23 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

Microsoft unveils new Surface models, accessories

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—Microsoft Corp on Monday unveiled two new models of its tablets family, Surface 2 and Surface Pro 2, along with an expanded portfolio of new Surface accessories here in New York.

Microsoft Vice President Panos Panay, who leads Microsoft's Surface team, introduced updates of the new models at the event, including improve-

ments to processing power and battery life, to display and camera resolution, and to the Kickstand, now with dual angles, which makes it more comfortable to use Surface on the lap or at the desk.

Surface 2 is powered by an NVIDIA Tegra 4 processor, making apps run faster and smoother and increasing battery life to up to 10 hours for video

playback. Camera resolution has also increased, with a 3.5-megapixel front camera and 5-megapixel rear camera, both featuring improved low-light performance.

Surface 2, which is slightly thinner and lighter than its predecessor, starts at 449 dollars. Surface Pro 2, designed as a laptop replacement, is capable of running virtually all Win-

dows software including the full Microsoft Office suite, as well as apps from the Windows Store. It's priced starting from 899 dollars. It is powered by a fourth-generation Intel Core i5 processor which, combined with other improvements, delivers increased performance and up to 60 percent longer battery life than the previous model.—Xinhua



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Wall Street logs 3-day losing streak amid Fed policy uncertainty

NEW YORK, 24 Sept—US stocks fell for the third straight session on Monday, as investors tried to digest a batch of speeches from Federal Reserve officials and weigh a looming budget fight in Washington.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 49.71 points, or 0.32 percent, to 15,401.38 points. The S&P 500 was down 8.07 points, or 0.47 percent, to 1,701.84 points. The Nasdaq Composite Index shed 9.44 points, or 0.25 percent, to 3,765.29 points.

Fed officials were divided on whether the US central bank should delay tapering its quantitative easing in its September policy meeting.

New York Fed President William Dudley on Monday defended the Fed's surprise decision last week not to trim its massive asset purchases, saying progress had been made but not enough to begin tapering.

Also on Monday, Atlanta Fed President Dennis Lockhart said there is some evidence that the US economic dynamism is declining and losing its "economic mojo."

However, Dallas Fed President Richard Fisher noted the Fed's latest decision to keep its bond purchase programs intact has hurt its credibility.

The looming US debt ceiling wrangling also added negative sentiment



to the market. The US Treasury Department has said that the government's debt limit needs to be raised by mid-October.

On the economic front, the Chicago Fed National Activity Index, a gauge of the US overall economic activity, rose to 0.14 in August from minus 0.43 in July.

"A tick-up in the August led by manufacturing is encouraging. But what we want to see is a more comprehensive and sustainable recovery," Mei Li, an economic analyst

at FTN Financial, said on Monday.

Most major S&P sectors drifted lower, led by financials. "Given that the financial sector is the largest of any of the major S&P sectors, this kind of deterioration continues to be a headwind to stocks in general," said Mark Newton, the chief technical analyst at Greywolf Execution Partners Inc.

The CBOE Volatility Index, widely considered as a fear gauge of the market, soared 9.07 percent to end at 14.31.—Xinhua

South Korea dumps Boeing fighter jet tender, Lockheed soars back

SEOUL, 25 Sept—South Korea's government bowed to public pressure on Tuesday and voted down a bid by Boeing (B.A.N) to supply 60 warplanes, saying it would restart the multi-billion tender process to get a more advanced fighter.

Lockheed Martin's (LMT.N) F-35A, previously considered too expensive, has shot to the front of the line in the race for the contract after the defense ministry singled out a fifth-generation fighter as the preferred option.

stealth capabilities.

"Our air force thinks that we need combat capabilities in response to the latest trend of aerospace technology development centered around the fifth generation fighter jets and to provocations from North Korea," defence ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok told reporters.

A third bid by the Eurofighter consortium's Typhoon was also ruled out for going over the finance ministry's budget. Under South Korean law, only bids under budget are eligible to



The Boeing logo is seen at their headquarters in Chicago, on 24 April, 2013.—REUTERS

The fifth generation F-35A, complete with its hi-tech stealth capability, has already been ordered by seven countries, including Japan and Israel.

Boeing's F-15 Silent Eagle had been in the box seat to win the 8.3 trillion won (\$7.7 billion) tender — as the only bid to fall within budget — but former military top brass and even the ruling party's lawmakers had criticized the plane as it lacked crucial

win defence contracts.

A deal with Boeing or Lockheed Martin was seen as the most likely by experts because of South Korea's close military alliance with the United States against the belligerent North.

The South Korean government and air force will map out a fresh tender process and consider a new budget. The defence ministry said it could take around one year to complete the new tender round.—Reuters

US home prices up, but slip in confidence could be a concern



Toll Brothers luxury homes are shown sold before their completion in Oceanside, California, on 30 Aug, 2013.

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—US home prices gained in July even as a dip in consumer confidence this month underscored the potential for higher interest rates and a sluggish economy to dent a housing market recovery.

The S&P/Case Shiller composite index of 20 metropolitan areas rose 0.6 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis, a little slower than the 0.8 percent gain economists in a Reuters poll had expected.

Year-over-year, home prices in all 20 cities have gained, with Las Vegas surging 27.5 percent.

Despite the gains, analysts noted that home prices remained off their pre-crisis era peaks.

"Home prices still have a long way to go before home prices are back to levels that predated the collapse of the housing

market," wrote Thomas Simons, a money market economist at Jefferies, in a note to clients.

Data from the US Federal Housing Finance Agency showed US home prices rose 1 percent in July from June.

Economists are worried that a jump in interest rates will put off homebuyers. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury has surged more than 100 basis points since May, when Federal Reserve policymakers began hinting at an exit from crisis-era measures to prop up the world's biggest economy.

But last week the US central bank surprised markets by keeping its \$85 billion of buying in Treasuries and mortgage-backed securities in place, pointing to worries about the economy, including employment.—Reuters

Brazil maintains growth forecast, downgrades inflation

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Sept—Brazil maintained its gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for 2013 at 2.4 percent, but downgraded projected inflation slightly to 5.81 percent, the country's central bank said on Monday.

According to the bank's Focus poll, a survey of the country's main financial institutions, the GDP growth of Latin America's largest economy should hit 2.4 percent this year, as predicted last week.

Analysts also kept their GDP forecast for 2014 at

2.2 percent, but reduced the projected inflation forecast for 2014 from 5.82 percent to 5.81 percent.

Both growth and inflation forecasts will be included in the government's target range, since Brazilian officials target an inflation rate of 4.5 percent for this year and next, with two-point leeway.

Analysts expect the basic interest rate, currently at 9 percent, to rise to 9.75 percent by the end of the year and to maintain at this figure in 2014.

Xinhua

Mid-day naps help preschool children learn

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept—Mid-day naps may help preschool children improve their learning efficiency, US researchers said on Monday.

Researchers from the University of Massachusetts Amherst said little is known about the value of naps in young children and some US preschool programmes have begun to eliminate naps to increase teaching time.

Against this backdrop, the researchers recruited 40 preschool children and taught them a visual-spatial task, in which children see a grid of pictures and have to remember where different pictures are located on the grid. Children learned the task in the morning, and



performed a memory test immediately afterward and then again in the afternoon, with or without a mid-day nap. While the children performed at similar levels immediately after learning, those who napped performed significantly better both in the afternoon and the next day than those who did not nap, the researchers reported in the journal Proceedings

of the National Academy of Sciences.

"That means that when they miss a nap, the child cannot recover this benefit of sleep with their overnight sleep," they wrote in their paper. To explore the effect of sleep stages and whether memories were actively processed during the nap, the researchers recruited an additional 14 preschoolers

who came to a sleep lab and had polysomnography, a record of biophysiological changes, during their average 73-minute naps. The researchers noted a correlation between sleep spindle density which is activity associated with integrating new information, and the memory benefit of sleep during the nap.

"Essentially we are the first to report evidence that naps are important for preschool children," lead author Rebecca Spencer, research psychologist of the university, said in a statement. "Our study shows that naps help the kids better remember what they are learning in preschool."—Xinhua

Canada agrees to export shale gas to Japan after summit talks

OTTAWA, 25 Sept—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper agreed on Tuesday that Canada will start exports of shale gas to Japan, making it the second country after the United States to provide the natural resource to Japan.

During the summit talks held in Ottawa, Abe and Harper also decided to enable the Self-Defence Forces and the Canadian military to provide logistics support to each other when they engage in international humanitarian assistance such as UN peacekeeping operations, and in relief efforts, a Japanese govern-

ment official said.

The agreement, when formally signed, will become the third of its kind for Japan after the United States and Australia, the latest in a series of defence cooperation that the prime minister is hoping to promote with other countries.

The Japanese prime minister is on a visit to Canada on the first leg of his tour that takes him to the United States to attend a UN General Assembly meeting.

As the crisis in Syria has been a major topic at the General Assembly, both leaders confirmed that they support a US-Russian deal to eliminate chemi-

cal weapons in Syria, and Abe explained Tokyo's determination to provide humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees.

To prepare for shale gas to be exported to Japan, Abe and Harper confirmed that they will accelerate talks at the ministerial level, the Japanese official said.

The Japanese prime minister also offered assistance in developing necessary infrastructure in Canada to ship shale gas and asked Harper to enable Japanese companies to participate in shale gas-related projects.

Shale gas, a relatively cheaper source of energy, is expected to help reduce ris-



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) holds talks with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa on 24 Sept, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

ing costs at utility companies that have been forced to rely on fossil fuels after their nuclear power plants were kept off-line in the wake of the Fukushima crisis.

As negotiations con-

tinued for the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade initiative, Japan and Canada will jointly cooperate in boosting trade within bilateral and multilateral frameworks, the two leaders agreed.—Kyodo News

Hunger as well as violence threatens Syrians

BEIRUT, 25 Sept—Hunger is a growing threat to Syrians living in regions hit by the civil war and children are now dying of malnutrition, according to aid groups and activists.

Cases of malnutrition in Syria are still rare but they were unheard before the revolt against President Bashar al-Assad broke out in March 2011.

Syrian activists have filmed the bodies of several skeletal children who doctors said died of malnutrition. The most recent victim was one-year-old Rana Obeid, who died on Tuesday. Footage showed her with her ribs protruding and belly swollen.

Doctors said she was the sixth child to die from malnutrition in the Damascus suburb of Mouadamiya.

Such cases are hard to confirm by international aid groups, which have little access to areas hit by violence. But groups like Save the Children, which released a report on hunger on Tuesday, say such incidents point to a potential crisis.

"You have rampant inflation of food prices, lack of access to food and a huge problem reaching people in need. These are all the ingredients that lead to a food security crisis. There isn't strong data but there is a strong reason to worry," said Save the Children's George Graham.

"The likelihood of a crisis seems high and imminent."

Mouadamiya is controlled by rebels but under blockade by Assad's forces. The United Nations says aid workers have been unable to visit the town for over a year due to fighting.

"Food is only dozens of metres away and our children are dying because of a checkpoint or a sniper," said Omar, a doctor in the town, speaking by Skype.

Save the Children cited reports suggesting a quarter of Syrian families go as much as a week at a time without being able to buy food. Food is often available but prices have doubled in the last year and poverty is rising.

Reuters



A man watches as bread is being baked in Duma neighbourhood, in Damascus on 22 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Kenya mall siege 'over' but death toll unclear



A soldier carries a child to safety as armed police hunt gunmen who went on a shooting spree at Westgate shopping centre in Nairobi, on 21 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

NAIROBI, 25 Sept—As Kenya began three days of mourning on Wednesday for at least 67 people killed in the siege of a Nairobi mall, it was unclear how many more hostages may have died with the Somali Islamist attackers buried in the rubble.

Declaring final victory over the al Qaeda-linked gunmen from al Shabaab who stormed the Westgate shopping centre on Saturday, President Uhuru Kenyatta said that three floors in a part of the mall

had collapsed near the end of the operation, leaving an unknown number of bodies under steel and concrete.

It was not clear what caused the structure to come down.

Five militants had been shot dead, Kenyatta said, and six security personnel died in the four days of fighting.

Sixty-one civilians had so far been confirmed dead, Kenyatta added. Kenyan officials declined to say how many of 63 people whom the Red Cross had earlier

In Baghdad bastion, grieving Shi'ites call for revenge

BAGHDAD, 25 Sept—The red flag of revenge flies over a house in Baghdad's Shi'ite stronghold of Sadr City, where residents are mourning the victims of a triple bombing that killed 85 people at a funeral in the same place at the weekend.

Young men with pistols tucked into their belts or rifles slung over their shoulders patrol the streets of the sprawling, impoverished swathe of the Iraqi

capital, no longer trusting official security forces to keep Sadr City's three million people safe.

No group has claimed responsibility for Saturday's attacks, but many suspect the Sunni militants of al Qaeda, who have been this year and mounting attacks that have reversed a declining trend in sectarian violence that reached a climax in 2006-07.

Reuters

Philippines, Nigeria join nuclear nonproliferation framework

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—The Philippines and Nigeria joined an international framework for nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation on Tuesday, pledging to work together with other member countries such as Japan and Australia.

The participation by the two countries in the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative was endorsed at the group's foreign ministerial meeting, Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told a Press conference.

Kishida, who chaired the meeting, the seventh since 2010, said he welcomed the inclusion of the first member from Africa and the first member from Asia other than Japan, which came under US nuclear attack in 1945. The number of NPDI member countries now totals 12.

"We hope to grow into a group that can show a bigger presence in the sector of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation," said Kishida, a lawmaker from Hiroshima, one of the two Japanese cities hit by US nuclear bombs.

Abel Ayoko, deputy permanent representative of Nigeria's UN mission, told the Press conference the African country will "expand efforts to ensure the elimination of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction." Jesus Domingo, assistance secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, said, "The Philippines has a long-standing commitment to nuclear disarmament and our Constitution calls for our territory to be free from nuclear weapons."

Kyodo News



Residents gather at the site a day after a triple bomb attack in Baghdad's Sadr City, on 22 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Anti-DHF Campaign

Anti-DHF measures carried out in Htaukkyant



YANGON, 25 Sept—Anti-Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever measures were carried out in northern Htaukkyant ward in Mingaladon Township in Yangon North District.

The sanitation and sterilization measures were included in the campaign.

It was organized by Deputy Head of Township General

Administration Department U Myo Lwin Htway and party, staff of Health Department, members of Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association and the local people.

MMAL-Ko Shwe (Hmawbi)

Transport

New bus line launched in Pindaya

PINDAYA, 25 Sept—A new bus line Shwe-U-Min Super (Express) was launched for convenience of passengers in Pindaya

in Danu Self-Administered Zone on 18 September.

The bus of Shwe-U-Min Super could carry 15 passengers and will

ply between Pindaya and Aungban and between Pindaya and Taunggyi.

MMAL-Moe Moe Htway (Pindaya)

Fire Prevention

Fire drill conducted in Nay Pyi Taw Thabyegon Market

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—A fire drill was conducted in Nay Pyi Taw Thabyegon Market under the management of Markets Department of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, here, on 23 September morning.

It was attended by Deputy Director of Nay Pyi Taw Fire Services Department U Aung Myint, Deputy Director of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Markets Department U Nay Win Tun, in-charge officer of Thabyegon Market U Than Htay, officials of Fire Services Department and shopkeepers of the market.

Deputy Director of Fire Services Department U Aung Myint gave talks on Dos and

Don'ts for prevention of fire before the drill started.

"We are going enter the dry and hot season soon. We conduct the drill in cooperation with respective officials to disseminate fire extinguishing knowledge

to the shopkeepers of the market in order to prevent the market against the danger of fire," in-charge officer of Thabyegon market U Than Htay said.—MMAL-Min Min Latt (Mandalay University)



Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—A military column seized 24 packages of stimulant tablets along Mekong River near Sanphu village in Tachilek Township

in eastern Shan State on 20 September.

Each package includes WY brand 2000 tablets. The seized packages are worth K 96 million.

The military column systematically transferred the seized drugs to officials of the Tachilek Special Anti-Drug Squad.

MMAL-Myawady

Collective fertilizer broadcasting ceremony held

MOHNYIN, 25 Sept—A collective fertilizer broadcasting ceremony was held at 10-acre quality strain production plantation of farmer U Kyaw Min Oo in 10-mile Ywathit village-tract in Mohnyin Township in Kachin State on 21 September.

It was organized by Mohnyin Township Agriculture Department.

Mohnyin Township Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Sai Tin Aung delivered an address at the ceremony and Head of District Agriculture Department U Aye Myint Maung elaborated on Good Agriculture Patterns.

Mohnyin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Kyaw Soe Lay cordially greeted the local farmers and called

for cultivation of marketable quality paddy and doubling socio-economic status of the farmers.

Bags of Urea fertilizers were provided to farmers of Nantpok, Nyaunggai, Mawhan, Panglong and 10-mile Ywathit villages.

MMAL-163



Agriculture

Farming rights certificates presented to farmers

BAGO, 25 Sept—A ceremony to present farming rights certificates to farmers in Mayin village in Bago Township in Bago Region was held on 21 September.

Bago Township Farmland Management Committee Secretary U Min Thawda, townselders, village-tract administrators and some 80 local farmers attended the ceremony.

Secretary U Min Thawda elaborated on issuing of farming rights



certificates.

The officials then presented farming rights

certificates to the local farmers.

MMAL-Thant Zin

Mogaung Township Education Cooperatives meet

MOGAUNG, 25 Sept—Mogaung Township Education Cooperative Society Ltd held a general meeting for 2012-2013 fiscal year at Yadana Hall in No (2) Basic Education High School in Mogaung on 19 September

morning.

Patron and Chairman of Board of Directors U Myint Swe, Township Cooperative Officer U Win Myint, Deputy Township Education Officer U Min Oo and Chairman Township Cooperative

Syndicate U Saw Moe Lwin delivered an address at the ceremony.

Secretary of the Board of Directors U Myint Nwe read out the BOD report for the fiscal year.

MMAL-062

Whites emerge champions in Labutta club challenge

LABUTTA, 25 Sept—The final of Township Sports and Physical Education Committee Chairman's Cup Club Open in Labutta Township in Labutta District took place at Nay Thurein Stadium on 18 September.

The Whites defeated Fishery Entrepreneurs 3-1 in the final showdown. Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Zaw Tun awarded cup and prizes to the champions the Whites and the district



deputy commissioner and the township administrator

presented awards.

MMAL-Township IPRD

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 26 September, 2013

Tourism boomerang

Myanmar is preparing to organize a Myanmar Tourism Development Forum on the sidelines of World Tourism Day on 27 September. It would be sponsored by Asian Development Bank and Hans Siedel Foundation which are active partners in Myanmar's development efforts. Key players in Myanmar's tourism industry and officials are expected to attend the forum.

Myanmar introduced Myanmar Tourism Master Plan at World Economic Forum on East Asia in Nay Pyi Taw on 5 June. It was drafted by a team of international experts in tourism with the financial support of the Norwegian government and the technical support of the Asian Development Bank.

As Myanmar has opened up to the global community, the country has seen a hike in arrivals of foreigners to Myanmar. But does it always mean the tourism boom?

Being a country rich in oil and gas deposits which are almost untapped and facilitated by the lifting of sanctions by the western countries, Myanmar would undoubtedly receive more multinational corporations rushing into the country. The number of business executives entering Myanmar would be increased. The number of arrivals will not always suggest the conditions of tourism industry.

Dilapidated infrastructures and skyrocketed prices are major issues in our tourism industry. But, the issue we have to address with greater attention is how we cope with the lack of tourists in low season. We have enough tourists in high seasons. But in low season, the country's tourism industry is virtually dead.

We need to make sure that those working in the tourism industry could earn their living in the industry and hotels, restaurants and domestic airlines have sizable customers all year round. The hotels in Myanmar could not provide adequate rooms in high season and could not have enough customers in low season while maintenance cost is the same. It may have effect on prices in high season. It seems like the tourists visiting Myanmar are paying high prices to cover costs of service providers in low season. It would again make Myanmar an expensive country and an unthinkable option for budget tourists.

Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee meets Japan-Myanmar legal affairs research team

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—The secretary and members of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee met a Japan-Myanmar legal affairs research team led by Mrs Emi MAKINO, Pro-Rector of Nagoya University, Japan, at the hall of the Hluttaw building, here, this morning.

Secretary of Pyithu

Hluttaw Bill Committee U Saw Hla Tun and committee members explained the legislative matters and members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission U Ba Shein, Dr Soe Moe Aung and U Thein Tun Oo replied to the queries raised by the Pro-Rector of the university.—MNA



Fourth Estate

Talking of the Fourth Estate, it should be started from Thomas Carlyle, a Scottish historian and philosopher of the 19th Century. I have read that he was the first to refer to the press as the Fourth Estate as early as 1841 in his work "Heroes and Hero Worship". But, he attributed the origin of the term to MP Edmund Burke who used it in a parliamentary debate in 1787 on the opening up of Press reporting of the House of Commons of British parliament.

Burke said: "There were Three Estates in Parliament; but, in the Reporters' Gallery yonder, there sat a Fourth Estate more important than they all. It is not a figure of speech, or a witty saying; it is a literal fact, ... Printing, which comes necessarily out of Writing, I say often, is equivalent to Democracy: invent Writing, Democracy is inevitable.....Whoever can speak, speaking now to the whole nation, becomes a power, a branch of government, with inalienable weight in law-making, in all acts of authority. It matters not what rank he has, what revenues or garnitures: the requisite thing is that he has a tongue which others will listen to: this and nothing more is requisite."

In the age of Burke toward the end of 18th Century, the British parliament was made up of traditional three estates—Lords Spiritual, Lords Temporal, and the Commons. It seemed that historian Carlyle wanted to tell much about the Fourth Estate in connection with increased public awareness. He mentioned the Fourth Estate in his three-volume work "The French Revolution: A History" (1837). In this book, he wrote: "A Fourth Estate, of Able Editors, springs up; increases and multiplies, irrepressible, incalculable." The three estates of France that time were the church, the nobil-

ity and the townsmen.

There were at least two persons who coined the term the Fourth Estate apart from Burke. British politician Henry Brougham talked about the Fourth Estate for one time at the parliament around 1823/24. Historian Thomas Macaulay also mentioned about it in his work "Holland's Constitutional History in 1828." Before Carlyle could not mobilize public acknowledgement of the press as the Fourth Estate, earlier writers had applied the term to lawyers, to the spouses of the queens and to the labour unions (or) proletariat. The term makes implicit reference to the earlier division of the three Estates of the Realm.

Though the birth of the term Fourth Estate was not consistent, and it has never been defined explicitly through legislation, now democracies across the world commonly refer to the media as the Fourth Estate. The public opinion is the final and most important assessment of ensuring the balance of power between the legislative branch, executive branch and the judicial branch. It is the responsibility of media, as a whistleblower, to inform the people of the cases of corruption and bribery and abuse of power to assure the transparency and righteousness of three branches of power. The concept of the Fourth Estate is believed to have stemmed from the view that the press is as equally important as the other estates existing in line with the constitution as it can shape the public opinion. Another reason to refer to the free press (or) free media as the Fourth Estate is because it takes the central role in protecting democracy.

Potter Stewart, the then justice of the United States Supreme Court between 1958 and 1981, said to law students of Yale University that a free press permits the "organized expert scrutiny of government." Thus, he said, the press is the "fourth institution outside the Government as an additional check on the three official branches."

His words reverber-

Politics and Media

ated in the whole US, and the wording the Fourth Branch has become Fourth Estate. It can be assumed that the Fourth Estate is linked with the three branches of power and the wording fourth estate seems to be paying more attention to freedom and influence of the press.

However, the media needs to be properly inde-

Min Ba Htoo

pendent to accomplish the duty central to democracy. The media should be independent from the government or the strong private business interests. The media would be an objective estate only when it itself is independent from the government and the opposition, without being corrupted in various aspects of personality cult, dogmatism and personal feelings. It is the major purpose of the transformation of some state-owned media into public service media funded by the public revenue. The Public Service Media would be governed by an independent council formed with citizen representatives. As it would be operated by the council formed with citizen representatives, they would be as independent as the private media. The influence of private interests in private media could be controlled by regulating the property of the media and with other rules and regulations. The ethics of the media could only be promoted and controlled by the people and councils formed with media personalities. Without these measures, the media could not play an effective role in democratization process.

I would like to refer to Daw Khin Myo Chit's work "The World of Journalism" printed in 1952. It is stated in pages 53/54, "The first thing is that **to broaden the horizon of the people which is the basis for the success of democratization depends basically on newspapers that could raise public awareness.** The newspaper industry must be profitable. And it would also need to pro-

vide knowledge to the public. The second thing is that, **in educating the public to turn them into active citizens, the education is not for the haves only, but must be available in the newspaper.** The third thing is that the newspaper must stimulate the **responsible behaviors in one's society.** Toward these ends, let's imagine how we could turn newspaper a tool in the hands of responsible persons."

After discussing some concepts and ways to make newspaper "a tool in the hands of responsible persons", Daw Khin Myo Chit highlighted the concept of British journalist and anti-war activist Kingsley Martin. In pages 67/68, she said, "Kingsley Martin assumed that the newspapers run by public corporations formed with any responsible organizations rather than by an irresponsible person would not impact on the freedom of press. That newspaper would be independent from the government. It also has freedom in criticizing. The competitiveness in reporting would be no less than a private newspaper. As these are not for profit, they would have wider categories, no yellow journalism affect, and a forum for public affairs."

It has been 60 years. This article is to help you consider whether the Public Service Media Bill drafted with the support of UNESCO to narrow the knowledge gap of the people in urban and rural areas including border areas and the mainland as **raising public awareness is in public interests or in special interests.** If there are better plans in educating the public, I am ready to accept them. All in all, the role of the media in democratization process depends on how the public accept the media and on editorial independence and capacity of journalists and their attention on public interests.

Thank you.

Trs: TKK + HKA

NATIONAL

UEC Chairman meets former US President and party



Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye holds talks with members of The Elders based in London of Britain.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye held talks with members of The Elders based in London of Britain on a range of issues, including preparations for multiparty democracy general elections to be held in 2015 and tasks for development of electoral process.

The UEC chairman met members of the Elders

comprising Mr. Jimmy Carter, former President of the United States and Noble Peace laureate, Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, former President of Finland and Noble Peace laureate, and Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway, at his office, here, this afternoon.

They also discussed presidential electoral system, participation of ethnic

minorities and women in parliamentary affairs and State issues, whether there is a plan to allow observation teams in elections and study tours in elections of other countries and experience on international elections.

Also present at the meeting were UEC members U Myint Naing, Dr Daw Myint Kyi and U Win Ko and officials.—MNA

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw receives The Elders based in London of Britain

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received The Elders based in London of Britain comprising Mr. Jimmy Carter, former President of the United States and Noble Peace laureate, Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, former President of Finland and Noble Peace laureate, and Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway at the Hall (I-1) of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 4.45 pm today.

They discussed participation of the Elders in democracy transition process of Myanmar, human rights and Hluttaw affairs.

Also present at the call were Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Committee U Thurein Zaw, U Win Sein and officials.—MNA



Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa shaking hands with Mr. Jimmy Carter, former US President and Noble Peace laureate.—MNA

Ngawun River reaches above danger level

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—The water level of the Ngawun River at Ngathaingyoung has reached its danger level starting from 16 September 2013,

(03.30) am. According to the (12.30) hr MST observation today, the water level has exceeded by 60 cm (about 2 ft) above its danger level. It may continue to

fall 20 cm (about 0.7 foot) and remain above its danger level during the next three days announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission issues news release on complaints

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Acceptance of Complaints

1. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission was constituted with the aim of raising and protecting the fundamental rights of citizens in accord with the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and its office is kept open at No. 27 on Pyay Road in Hline Township of Yangon.
2. If the fundamental rights of a citizen prescribed in the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are violated, he/she may lodge complaints to Myanmar National Human Rights Commission with the following attachments-
(a) The name of complaint, address and contact address (phone/mobile phone, fax and e-mail if any)
(b) The facts and figures for violation of fundamental rights to the attachment of the evidence related to the case
(c) Signature certifying that the complaint is true
3. To ensure the case, the complaints attached to the copy of citizenship scrutiny card of the submitter may be sent to the Chairman or the Secretary of the MNHRC at No. 27 on Pyay Road in Hline Township of Yangon through registered letter of postal service or in person.
4. The complaints must be described in line with paragraphs 2(a), (b), (c) and 3 for enabling the commission to carry out effective tasks.
5. This announcement is not inclusive of the cases that were opened files at any court, the cases under interrogation at the court and the cases handed down by the court.
6. If necessary, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission will meet the complaint maker in scrutinizing the accepted complaints.
7. In scrutinizing the case, if the fundamental rights are found to have been violated, the commission will carry out the tasks for raising and protecting the fundamental rights of citizens in line with its rules and regulations.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Measures being taken to arrest offenders who attack police force on duty

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Nay Pyi Taw Council Police are taking measures to arrest 10 offenders involved in attacking the police force on 19 September at Wegyi Village in Pobbathiri Township in attempts to bring those who involve in ploughing and cutting trees on land owned by News and Periodicals Enterprise.

When the local police arrested Zaw Latt of Wegyi Village around 2.15 am on 19 September, around 300 villagers armed with swords and sticks gathered at the scene, and some villagers led by Aung Kyaw Moe, San Lwin, Thet Naing and Tun

Lat attacked the police with swords and sticks though the police explained that they were on duty together with the village's administrator and other townselders to arrest the offenders.

Around 5.30 am, another police force led by Head of Nay Pyi Taw Council Police Force rescued the seven injured police and took them to the 1000-bed hospital.

Regarding the land compensation, out of 41 farmers, 27 have been given compensation amounted to 15.2 million by the NPE for 60.805 acres and out of 28 farmers, five have been given over 4 million for 16.35 acres by the Press Printing

Plant (Zeyathiri) up to 10 August.

While measures are being taken to give compensation to farmers, around 20 farmers led by Win Hlaing invaded the land owned by the NPE and ploughed on it on 12 and 13 September and some farmers led by Tun Tun, Win Hlaing, Daw Khin Aye and Daw Win Kyi of Wegyi Village also ploughed on it on 14 and 15 September. Eighty-nine eucalyptus trees on the land were also cut down by the villagers.

Nay Pyi Taw Press of the NPE filed law suits against them at Shwedwingon Myoma Police Station.

MNA



Police makes clarification to local people while taking back injured policemen from Wegyi Village of Pobbathiri Township.

MNA

Police Chief of Staff receives officials of INTERPOL

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Special Relations Officer Mr Re'my Olive L'Aute and three members called on Police Chief of Staff Police Brig-Gen Win Khaung at the hall of the

Myanmar Police Force Headquarters, here, on 23 September afternoon.

At the call, they cordially discussed assistance for conducting the training courses on capacity build-

ing of INTERPOL for SWAT and management for border region stability and tranquility and detailed coordination for the training courses.

Also present at the call together with the Police

Chief of Staff were Director Police Col Myo Than of Security and Criminal Department, Director Police Col Aung Htay Myint of Transnational Crime Department and senior police officers.

Kyemon-Police Information

Natural Disaster

Taninthayi flooded once more due to heavy rain, overflow of Taninthayi River



MYEIK, 25 Sept—Taninthayi Township of Myeik District face floods by the Taninthayi River annually.

The root cause of heavy rains and overflow of Taninthayi River, the water level exceeded 22 feet high basic level of the town at the 4.30 observation on 23 September, two feet ahead of danger level.

Due to rising water level, Thida Street and Wingabar Streets in Chaungnge Ward of Taninthayi were inundated with about four feet deep water and Kyanmaryay, Shweleipya and extended 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th

streets were under three feet deep water.

The local authorities evacuated the local people to the safe places.

Taninthayi River was swollen 14 villages in the township.

In consequence, basic education schools were closed at the flooded villages. Likewise, Basic Education High School (Taninthayi) in the urban area was temporarily closed for primary and middle students.

The remaining students are still learning the upstairs of the school.

Due to floods of the riv-

Local people use boat in transportation in Taninthayi during flooding.

er, Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin Road was inundated, and low-lying Letaungya village between mile posts 52/3 and 53/0 flooded under five feet deep water.

As the flood cut out the transport route, the local people use rafts and motorbats for their transportation.—*Kyemon-Myeik District IPRD*



MILK RICE GRUEL FED TO STUDENTS: *Bahtoo Ward administrator fed milk rice gruel to 64 students of Basic Education Primary School (Hleseik) in Bahtoo Ward of Yekyi Township in Patheingyi District of Ayeyawady Region on 22 September.*

KYEMON-697



Vehicle of Asaungkaung Co overturns

MYEIK, 25 Sept—A ferry Canter driven by Soe Latt Oo of Peinnetaung Village in Ingamaw Village-tract in Myeik Township of Taninthayi Region transported 46 workers to Asaungkaung Co at 7.15 am on 24 September.

On arrival at the junction of Taung-tawmyat of Bo Hill in Botaung Ward of Sandawuk Village-tract, the vehicle overturned into the right side of the road.

Five police members and six Fire Brigade members carried out rescue works for the workers by one fire truck.

In the incident, three male workers and 14 female

workers totalling 17 from the company were injured and the remaining 29 were free from injury.

The injured were sent to Myeik People's Hospital.

Kyemon-278



Onion from Kalay region, Chin Hill on demand of India

KALAY, 25 Sept—Production of onion from Kalay

region and Chin Hill are on demand of India at the Nantphalon Market of Tamu, the border area of Myanmar and India daily.

Thousands of viss of onion are being traded daily.

Not only the onion produced from Kalay region and Chin Hill but that of Monywa, Pakokku and Mandalay regions are on demand at the market.

"We transport thousands of viss of onion produced from Kalay region and Chin Hill to the regions upstream of Chindwin River and Monywa and Mandalay. Onion demand

Business

is high at the Myanmar-India border once every three years. Onion and garlic are essential kitchen utensils for food cooking of Indians. So, Indians store onion from the market for their use all the year round," said a onion broker from the market.

Onion is sold at K 850 per viss at nantphalon Market of Myanmar-India border.

The small size of onion is K 600 per viss and medium size K 650 per viss at the broker.

Kyemon-La Wun Cho

Odd News

Uprooted golden mahur tree falls down on Padonma Road in Sangyoung Tsp



SANGYOUNG, 25 Sept—A 50 feet high and three feet diameter gold mohur tree, 20 years old, fell down near U Pyaung food stall on Padonma Road in Shin Saw Pu Ward of Sangyoung Township, Yangon West District, on 22 September.

The uprooted tree caused no damage to its environment. However, five lamp-posts were broken and three cars damaged.

Head of Township Development Affairs Committee U Tin Oo and his assistants together with workers and members of Fire Brigade and those of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board cleared the debris and fallen tree. The road has been cleared at 11 am and the vehicles run regularly.—*Kyemon-597*

REGIONAL



Photo shows Matsukawaura fishing port in Soma, Fukushima Prefecture, on 24 Sept, 2013. The Fukushima Prefectural Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations said the same day fishing off the Fukushima coast is set to resume on a trial basis on 25 Sept, about a month after leaks of contaminated water into the sea at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant forced trial operations to be put on hold. According to the federation, out of 100 fish and seafood products tested, 95 were clear of radioactive substances and the remaining five contained less than one-10th of the government's limit of 100 becquerels for food products.

KYODO NEWS

JR Hokkaido finds 170 more unrepaired rail defects

SAPPORO, 25 Sept—Hokkaido Railway Co said Wednesday it has found 170 more unrepaired rail defects, bringing to 267 the total uncovered so far in its investigation into last week's cargo train derailment.

The newly found defects may include those where proper repairs had not been conducted since 1985, when changes were made in maintenance rules by the now-defunct Japan National Railways.

JR Hokkaido, which serves Japan's northernmost main island, said the defects, including the 170 newly found ones, had all been repaired by Wednesday morning.—Kyodo News

Singapore issues guidelines on Personal Data Protection Act

SINGAPORE, 25 Sept—Singapore issued two sets of advisory guidelines on the newly effective Personal Data Protection Act 2012, aiming at better understanding of provisions of the act, the Personal Data Protection Commission announced on Tuesday.

The first set of guidelines is on key concepts which provides interpretation of key terms used.

An example of a key term is "personal data" which is interpreted as all types of data from which an individual can be identified, regardless of whether such data is true or false or whether it is in electronic or other form, the commission said in a statement. The guidelines also clarify on the data protection provisions

and various obligations in the act, such as "the obligation to obtain the consent of an individual before collecting, using or disclosing his personal data, and to notify the individual of the purpose of doing so."

As regard to the Do Not Call Provisions in the act, the guidelines elaborate that "persons that wish to send specified messages to an individual with a Singapore telephone number must check with the Do Not Call Registry to obtain consent of the individual."

The Do Not Call Registry will be set up by 2 Jan next year. Another set of advisory guidelines will be for selected topics which illustrates how the act applies to specific issues and domains.

These topics include

data for research, collection of personal data through Closed-Circuit Televisions, and use of NRIC numbers, etc.

The commission said organizations can refer to the guidelines as they adjust their business processes or implement data protection processes to comply with the act, which will fully come into effect from 2 July next year. Singapore parliament passes personal data protection bill last October, with rules stipulating heavy fines for data protection offenses and unsolicited marketing call or message to numbers in a "Do Not Call" registry.

The act came into effect in January this year, and it will be implemented in phases over an 18-month period.

Xinhua

Vietnam's population growth slows to 1.06 pct in 2012

HANOI, 25 Sept—Vietnam's population growth shrank to 1.06 percent in 2012 from 3.5 percent in 1960, according to Vietnam's Ministry of Health.

In a conference to review the country's 10-year implementation of the population ordinance held in capital Hanoi on Tuesday, the ministry said Vietnam's population was over 79 million in 2002. As of 1 April, 2012, the figure reached 88.78 million.

The national population was forecast to hit 90 million on 1 Nov, 2013. The national strategies on population and reproductive health target 93 million in population by 2015, said the ministry.

It was reported that the average number of children born to a woman fell sharply from 6.3 in 1960 to only 2.05 in 2012.—Xinhua



Indian sand artist Sudarshan Pattnaik (L, front) gives a final touch to his sand sculpture of the terror attack in Kenya, on the Bay of Bengal coast in Puri, in eastern Indian state Orissa's Bhubaneswar, on 24 Sept, 2013. XINHUA

Thai PM vows to seek, secure new markets for Thai export goods

BANGKOK, 25 Sept—Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra vowed on Tuesday to continue to seek and secure new world markets for Thai export goods in place of the existing ones where orders for them have gradually declined.

Addressing the House of Representatives on the Pheu Thai (For Thais)-led government's one-year performances, Yingluck confirmed that her government needed to look out for

potentially promising markets for varied export goods from Thailand because, she said, the demands for them had considerably dropped in the United States, the European countries and China.

"The government never had a policy to slow down the country's export industry despite the fact that our usual export markets have largely declined, such as those in the US, Europe and China. For that reason, we will continue to

secure new markets for our export products."

"As much as 70 percent of our economic growth used to depend on the country's export sector over the past years. Now that our usual customers in the world markets have cut down their orders, we need to look for new ones to make up for the current decline in our export volumes," she said but did not elaborate.

Xinhua

Senior officials discuss moving ASEAN more effectively

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 25 Sept—Senior ASEAN officials met here on Tuesday to prepare for the final gathering this year of the ministerial body that coordinates socio-cultural cooperation across Southeast Asia.

The meeting, chaired by Dato Hamid Jaafar, perma-

nent secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei, focused on final preparations for the 23rd ASEAN Summit here on 9 Oct.

In his opening remarks, Dato Hamid announced the completion of a report on the Mid-Term Review of the Im-

plementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint adopted by ASEAN Leaders in 2009.

At the 22nd ASEAN Summit hosted by Brunei in April, the Leaders said they "looked forward" to receiving the report in October as the region moves towards the

establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015.

Dato Hamid said the completion of the report was an accomplishment that would not have been possible without the support and cooperation of all 10 ASEAN Member States.

Xinhua

Indonesia introduces "school of climate change" programme to reduce emission

JAKARTA, 25 Sept—Indonesia is introducing the "school of climate change" aimed at speeding up efforts in reducing emission in the country, a senior official from the environment ministry said on Tuesday. "The aim of the school of climate change is to provide a forum to build up the capacity of decision makers in environment preservation issue.

This programme is essential to encourage and remind them of the importance of environment and climate change factors that should be integrated in their considerations process before issuing final decision both in state institutions

and in the business world," Environment Damage Control and Climate Change Deputy Minister in the environment ministry Arief Yuwono said in a session to introduce the programme.

He said that the programme was initiated by the environment ministry in cooperation with the House of Change, an education institution led by a prominent educator Rhenald Kasali.

Yuwono added that such an education programme was now crucially important for Indonesia due to its geographical position that makes the world's largest archipelago country prone for the impacts of climate change.—Xinhua



Ballet dancer of China's Central Ballet Troupe rehearse classic Swan Lake in Paris, France, on 24 Sept, 2013. China's Central Ballet Troupe will give performances of the classic Swan Lake and Chinese ballet Red Detachment of Women here from 25 Sept to 3 Oct.—XINHUA



World Contraception Day 2013

26th September 2013

It's Your Life, It's Your Future, Know Your Options

Ministry of Information Myanma Radio and Television Invitation for Open Tender to purchase of Machinery

- Open tenders are invited for purchasing of the following items in Myanmar Kyats.
 - News Room Computer System (1 Lot)
 - Program Delay System (1 Lot)
(Catone live Program Delay System)
- Tender forms are available at Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) from (9:00 am to 16:30 pm) starting from 23-9-2013.
- Tender forms are to be submitted to Myanma Radio and Television Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) from 9:30 am to 16:30 pm in the presence of the Tender Committee Members.
- Enquiry over tender rules, item lists and other details can be made at the following address.
- Prize scrutiny will be made at Ministry of Information, Office No (7) Nay Pyi Taw.

**Purchasing Committee
Myanma Radio and Television
Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon)
Ministry of Information
Ph -067-79411, 067- 79135**

South Africa calls for level playing field in setting new global development agenda

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept — South African President Jacob Zuma on Tuesday called for a level playing field for his continent in setting a new global development agenda for the years following the end of the current cycle in 2015, warning that new international demands were impeding Africa's development.

"We raise this point .. because it appears that the global economic meltdown has brought about new developments that are detrimental to the developing world, especially Africa," Zuma told the United Nations General Assembly on the first day of its annual General Debate, citing a tendency to renegotiate the "rules of the game."

"New issues are being introduced as prerequisites for development and

partnerships which in fact become huge non-tariff barriers. These include the green economy and clean technology," he said, noting that while these issues are important and need to be addressed, the manner in which they are crafted restrains economic development as they are used as obstacles.

The year 2015 is the deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that set specific goals on poverty alleviation, education, gender equality, child and maternal health, environmental stability and HIV/AIDS reduction, and General Assembly President John Ashe has said the current session of the Assembly must lay the groundwork for global development in the decades beyond.

Xinhua

INVITATION FOR TENDER

TENDER NO. BRIDGE/BAILEY/2013-2014/NPT/ST 003

- 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.
- Tender application form (including Technical Specification, terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 100.
- 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.
- 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 Division, Public Works, from the date of (25-9-2013) to (3-10-2013).
- Tender should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on (4-11-2013).
- For further detailed information, please contact to Telephone No. 067-407082, 407514.

Managing Director
Public Works

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (341)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (341) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (081)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (081) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Ding Guofan, a 70-year-old farmer, and his wife Pan Guijuan climb mountain to reach their Chinese torreyia fields at Xishantou Village of Jingling Township in Xinchang County, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 23 Sept, 2013. The couple began to plant Chinese torreyia trees 9 years ago, starting their business on torreyia nuts, a kind of rare and nutritious food. About 25 kilograms torreyia nuts would be harvested this year, and the retail price was expected to reach 600 yuan (98 US dollars) per kilogram.

XINHUA

Russia sees US as unsafe for Russian orphans

Moscow, 25 Sept—A senior Russian diplomat said on Tuesday that the United States remains the most problematic country for orphans adopted from Russia.

Speaking at the 3rd Russia-US Child Protection forum, Konstantin Dolgov, the foreign ministry's envoy for democracy, human rights and supremacy of law, said US authorities should pay thorough attention to the so-called rehoming

of adopted children via Internet ad boards. He added they should conduct an "investigation of the facts of grave violations of children rights."

Earlier this month, Reuters reported that at least 26 Russian children were "exchanged" by their US foster families with other adoptive parents via the Internet. Moscow said many children were given to pedophiles and makers of child pornography via these

exchanges.

The 18-month journalistic investigation revealed that the transfers, beginning on online bulletin boards, led to cases of child abuse and neglect, and were carried out in a largely unregulated environment.

Dolgov said that many US foster families adopted children only to become eligible for social security payments and tax deduction. He reiterated Moscow's demands that the US

authorities should inform Russia of all cases of child abuse and allow Russian diplomats unrestricted access to the information.

Dolgov also demanded a reinvestigation into the death of Maxim Kuzmin, a Russian boy who died three months after being adopted by a US couple, and into the alleged abuse of several other adopted children, adding that both investigations should involve Russian representatives.—Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT



Actor Colin Farrell

Colin Farrell and Paula Patton to star in Warcraft

LOS ANGELES, 25 Sept—Actor Colin Farrell and Paula Patton are reportedly in talks to star in the upcoming movie Warcraft.

A long-delayed project to bring Blizzard's epic video game World Of Warcraft to the big screen is back on track.

Casting to find the lead actors in the fantasy story set on the world of Planet Azeroth has begun, reported Deadline.

Source Code director Duncan Jones is tapped to helm the live-action film, while Blood Diamond

scribe Charles Leavitt will write the script.

The movie adaptation was first announced back in 2006.

Spider-Man director Sam Raimi was initially attached to the project, but he bowed out last year. The project is now expected to start production in January 2014.

Warcraft series is an online multiplayer role-playing game taking place in a high-fantasy medieval-like setting where gryphons, dragons, zombies, werewolves and elves exist.—PTI

Julianne Moore debuts gray hair on new film set

LOS ANGELES, 25 Sept—Julianne Moore, who is known for her youthful looks and flame red hair, has got a makeover for upcoming film *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay* where she plays revolutionary leader President Alma Coin.

The 52-year-old actress has started shooting for the new movie and was spotted on the set in Atlanta, Georgia, rocking grey tresses, reported *Ace Showbiz*.

But she still managed to look considerably younger than her years as she travelled around on-set wearing a grey waterproof jacket and black trousers.

As the production kicks off, more cast members for the last two installments of *The Hunger Games* series are announced.

Francis Lawrence, who directs the second installment *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*, will be back to helm both *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1* and *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 2*. Actor Josh Hutcherson will also return as Peeta.

Mockingjay will follow Katnis joining a rebellion against the Capitol.—PTI



Julianne Moore will play revolutionary leader President Alma Coin in her next film.

Hugh Jackman values family over career



Hugh Jackman

LONDON, 25 Sept—Jackman says that the heart is what matters; the rest may come and go.

Hollywood star Hugh Jackman considers his family to be the most precious part of his life.

The 44-year-old *Prisoners* star, who is married to actress Deborah-Lee Furness puts his private life above his career, reported *Contactmusic*.

“Debs has strength and a lot of courage. She is very grounded. Our family matters more than anything - and I mean anything,” Jackman said.

“At the Oscars in 2009, when I put my hand on my heart, that’s a sign to Debs out there, a reminder that this is what matters and that all the rest—the awards and the money and the fame—may come and go. There’ll be time when I’m flavour of the month, times when I’m not. But Debs and my kids are what matters to me,” he added.

The couple have adopted two children, son Oscar and daughter Ava.—PTI

Britney Spears: Giving up food is hard



Britney Spears says that food and it is hard for her to stay away from pizzas.

LONDON, 25 Sept—Pop star Britney Spears says it is difficult to give up the food she loves as she prepares for a gruel-

ling two-year residency.

The 31-year-old singer, who is due to begin her Las Vegas residency in December, said it is a struggle to stay away from calorific treats such as pizzas, reported *Contact music*.

“I ate six times today, so I’m not always diligent with the food because I love food. It’s really hard (to cut down) but you know, you have to do it. I feel better though when I’m lighter, I do. My spirits are higher... But it’s just, you love pizza sometimes,” she said.

The singer has signed a two-year residency deal with Planet Hollywood for Britney: Piece of Me and she is looking forward to living in one place for a while after years of jet-setting across the globe.

PTI

Jennifer Hudson feels sorry for lookalike



Jennifer Hudson

LONDON, 25 Sept—Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Hudson has offered her sympathy to a woman, who was chased by paparazzi after she was mistaken for the *Dreamgirls* star.

The unnamed female, who bears a striking resemblance to Hudson, was photographed by snappers who were convinced she was the real one, reported *Contactmusic*.

Now Hudson has taken to her Twitter to clear the air about her lookalike, insisting she feels sorry that she had to deal with photographers.

“Cute girl! But that ain’t me! I know the poor girl was like, ‘Why are they taking pictures of me!!’ Wow!,” posted on Twitter.—PTI



SPORTS

Neymar opens La Liga account as Barca thump Sociedad



Barcelona's Neymar (L) tries to score against Real Sociedad's goalkeeper Claudio Bravo during their Spanish First division league match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, on 24 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

MADRID, 25 Sept—Barcelona maintained their perfect start to their title defence when Neymar scored his first La Liga goal and Lionel Messi netted his seventh of the season in a 4-1 victory at home to Real Sociedad on Tuesday.

The champions made it six wins from six largely thanks to a scintillating first-half display at the Nou Camp, when Neymar bundled the ball over the

line after five minutes and World Player of the Year Messi made it 2-0 with a diving header from the Brazilian's cross three minutes later.

Sergio Busquets scored a rare goal to make it 3-0 in the 23rd minute before Barca lost some of their intensity in the second half and Alberto de la Bella pulled one back for the visitors just after the hour.

Messi, whose goal was

his seventh in five league appearances this term, then set up substitute Marc Bartra to score from close range 13 minutes from time and snuff out any hopes of a Sociedad fightback.

Barca top the table on 18 points, three ahead of Atletico Madrid who host Osasuna later on Tuesday (2000 GMT). Real Madrid, two points behind in third, play at Elche on Wednesday (2000).—Reuters

Ibrahimovic extends PSG deal by one year until 2016

PARIS, 25 Sept—Striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic has followed Thiago Silva and Marco Verratti by extending his Paris St Germain contract for an extra year in a deal that ties him to the French champions until 2016. The 31-year-old Sweden international signed for three years when he joined the Qatari-backed club from AC Milan last year.

"I can't see a bigger ambition in Europe than Paris St Germain's. I absolutely want PSG to be the last great club of my career. This club is like me—no dream is big enough for us," the Swede told the PSG website (www.psg.fr).

According to local media reports, Ibrahimovic's salary will rise from about 14 million euros (\$18.89 million) a year to 15.

He was Ligue 1's top scorer with 30 goals in 34 games last season, helping PSG clinch their first French title since 1994.

The Swede also played

a key role in helping the club reach the Champions League quarter-finals, where they were eliminated on away goals after two draws against Barcelona.

Last month PSG ex-

tended the contracts of Brazil centre back Thiago Silva and Italy midfielder Marco Verratti by one year to 2018 in deals which media said were linked to huge salary rises.—Reuters



Paris Saint-Germain's Zlatan Ibrahimovic reacts as he eyes the ball during their French Ligue 1 match against Valenciennes at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris on 5 May, 2013.—REUTERS

WTA hail Li as China production line continues

SINGAPORE, 25 Sept—WTA chief Stacey Allaster hailed Li Na's rise as a key factor behind the growth of women's tennis in Asia as the next generation of Chinese players follow in the grand slam winner's footsteps and make their mark on the game.

Li's 2011 French Open victory made her the first Asian to win a grand slam singles title and spiked interest in the world's most populous country, one that is always a prioritized growth market for sports

bodies.

Zhang Shuai became the fifth Chinese women to win a WTA title when the wildcard triumphed at the Guangzhou Open on Saturday and Allaster hailed the world number five Li for her continued efforts in building the sport.

"The athlete that will make the greatest impact on the growth of women's tennis in this decade," the Canadian told Reuters of Li in an interview in Singapore on Tuesday.

Reuters



Li Na of China wipes her face during her match against Serena Williams of the US at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 6 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

Balotelli gets a ticking off from Milan coach

MILAN, 25 Sept—Mario Balotelli was given a ticking-off by AC Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri on Tuesday after the club decided not to appeal against a three-match ban for his sending-off on Sunday.

"Mario is 23 years old, he is no longer a child," Allegri told reporters about Balotelli's dismissal for insulting the referee at the end of the 2-1 home defeat by Napoli.

"To be a champion you have to have the right behaviour because you are an example to all those who are watching you," Allegri told reporters.

"Mario has made a mistake, penalising the team, the club and the supporters and he must change this behaviour."

Allegri added that ref-



AC Milan's Mario Balotelli (R) looks on after failing a penalty as Napoli's Marek Hamsik celebrates during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 22 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

erees were becoming reluctant to give free kicks to Balotelli because of his attitude.

"Mario should help the referees to protect him," he added. "The referees have left him (unprotected) because they can be influenced

by negative attitudes."

The maverick forward has been relatively well-behaved since joining Milan from Manchester City in January, although he was also sent off against Fiorentina in April, again for arguing with a referee.

"I hope that he realises he put the team in difficulty," said Allegri. "When the game is over, you need to go into the dressing room, calm down and think about working to improve."

"The players should think about playing and not about the referee's decisions," he added. "When the game ends, you should leave the field, possibly greeting the referee politely." "Mario is a world-renowned player who represents the Italian national team. I think he has every chance of understanding and growing. He is an important player for Milan and should behave like a champion.

"Until now, Mario has always behaved well. He got it wrong on Sunday and I hope that serves as a lesson."—Reuters

Bolt signs \$10 million deal to stay with Puma

LONDON, 25 Sept—Olympic sprint champion Usain Bolt will earn an estimated \$10 million a year in a sponsorship deal with German sportswear company Puma that will take him to the end of his career.

The Jamaican, the highest earner in his sport, will remain with Puma un-

til after the 2016 Olympics when he will seek to add to his six gold medals.

Bolt, 27, signed up with Puma as a teenager a decade ago and the renewal of the contract is a fillip for a brand struggling to keep pace with larger rivals Adidas and Nike.

Bolt will be paid \$10 million for each of the

next three seasons and the same amount if he competes again in 2017 when London hosts the world championships, an industry source said.

Once he retires from competition, he will be paid \$4 million per year to act as a Puma ambassador, the source added.

Forbes estimated that

Bolt was paid \$9 million annually under his current deal that expires at the end of the year.

"I have always been very happy to be a part of the Puma family, I am proud to represent them and delighted to continue with them for the years ahead," Bolt said in a statement.—Reuters



Jamaica's double Olympic champion sprinter Usain Bolt strikes a pose while inaugurating a Puma store in Barcelona, in this on 23 November, 2012 file photograph.

REUTERS

GENERAL



Rescuers transfer the residents trapped in flood at Xiaoxi Town of Pinghe County in Zhangzhou City, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 22 Sept, 2013. Rain-triggered flood brought by Typhoon Usagi hit several cities of the province on Monday, thousands of residents got trapped. The rescue work is underway.—XINHUA

Somalia to send 1 million children to school

MOGADISHU, 25 Sept—Mohmoud Jama is one of the lucky Somali children who go to school this year thanks to a government campaign to get 1 million kids back to education, following two decades of conflict in the horn of Africa nation.

Jama goes to Hassan Qaradi Primary School in Hawlwadag District of Mogadishu, where other 400 students receive education free of charge.

The Somali government in cooperation with international aid agencies launched an ambitious initiative, dubbed Go-TO-SCHOOL, to send 1 mil-

lion Somali children and youth to school to get basic education over the next three years.

After more than 20 years of conflict that left education system in the Horn of African country in ruins, school in Somalia is one of the lowest in the world.

According to the Somali government, only four out of 10 children are in school. Girls are particularly affected with only a third of girls enrolled in school in south central Somalia and many dropping out before completing their primary education.

At Hassan Qaradi Pri-

mary School, head teacher Abdulahi Mohamoud Barre is encouraged by the level of acceptance to education and the high level of enrolment at his school.

"We have already started work. We enrolled 400 students so far and teachers were brought in to give education to the children in our school," Barre told *Xinhua*.

The Somali government has launched a nationwide awareness campaign to urge parents to send their children to school and receive free primary education, the first of its kind for more than two decades.

Xinhua

Decades needed for recovery of tiny life on Gulf seabed after BP oil spill

HOUSTON, 25 Sept—It will take decades to repair the damage from the 2010 BP oil spill to communities of tiny organisms living in and on the soft sediment on the floor of the Gulf of Mexico surrounding the well, according to a new study published on Tuesday.

The study, published in the online scientific journal *PLOS One*, was conducted by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), BP and university researchers.

The study found the most damage to the abundance and diversity of tiny animal organisms extends 3 km from the wellhead in all directions, covering a 24-square-km area. Moder-

ate damage was seen up to 20 km to the southwest of the wellhead and 8.5 km to the northeast, covering an area of 148 square km.

"The tremendous biodiversity of meiofauna in the deep-sea area of the Gulf of Mexico we studied has been reduced dramatically," Jeff Baguley, one of the researchers, said in the study, referring to small boneless organisms that range in size from 0.042 to 0.300 mm.

"Nematode worms have become the dominant group at sites we sampled that were impacted by the oil. So though the overall number of meiofauna may not have changed much, it's that we've lost the incredible biodiversity," he said.

Xinhua

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 Sept—Oracle Team USA, emboldened after extending an epic America's Cup winning streak, seeks to hold the once-dominant Emirates Team New Zealand at bay again on Tuesday, depriving them of the one win needed to wrench the trophy from the US defender.

The team backed by Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison has momentum on its side and appears to have shut down a Kiwi juggernaut that had seemed headed to a lopsided Cup victory.

But the crew on the US boat has thrived on adversity, holding New Zealand at match point for days in every condition the wind gods could concoct. Racing has been postponed several times for too much wind, not enough wind and wind

MYANMAR TV

(26-9-2013, Thursday)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6:00 am | 2:05 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionaeay Sayadaw | 17. Musical Programme |
| 6:20 am | 3:00 pm |
| 2. Physical Exercise | 19. News |
| 6:30 am | 3:15 pm |
| 3. Song & Dance of National Races | 20. Fine Arts-Boson of Dramatic Performance |
| 7:00 am | 4:15 pm |
| 4. News/ Weather Report | 21. Myanmar Language |
| 7:20 am | 4:25 pm |
| 5. People Talks | 22. Song & Dance of National Races |
| 8:00 am | 4:35 pm |
| 6. News/ International News | 23. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Law) |
| 8:25 am | 5:00 pm |
| 7. My Mind Game My SEA Games | 24. News |
| 9:00 am | 5:15 pm |
| 8. News/International News | 25. Documentary (SEA Games) |
| 9:25 am | 5:30 pm |
| 9. Mono Classical Songs | 26. India Drama Series |
| 9:45 am | 6:00 pm |
| 10. Documentary (Borobudr, Indonesia) | 27. News/ Weather Report |
| 10:00 am | 6:20 pm |
| 11. News | 28. Approaching Science Discovery World |
| 10:15 am | 7:00 pm |
| 12. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than | 29. News |
| 10:35 am | 7:15 pm |
| 13. Teleplay (Health) | 30. TV Drama Series |
| 11:10 am | 8:00 pm |
| 14. Sing & Enjoy | 31. News/ International News/ Weather Report |
| 12:00 pm | 8:35 pm |
| 15. News/International News/Weather Report | 32. Teleplay |
| 12:25 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 16. Myanmar Video | 33. News |
| | 34. Clever |
| | 35. TV Drama Series |

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(26-9-13 09:30 am ~ 27-9-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Me N My Travel (Wonderful Pagodas On The Mount Akauk)
- * World News
- * Green Grocer
- * Local News
- * Food Trip (EP-1) Part-2
- * World News
- * Guiding Star of Song Birds
- * Local News
- * The Treasures in a Small Village (Part-I) (Part-II)
- * World News
- * A monk's Robe
- * Local News
- * Halin, A Treasure Trove of The Ancient Pyu City
- * World News
- * Monastery Bargayar Kyaung
- * Local News
- * Strolling Along A Memory Link- U Pein Bridge
- * World News
- * Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"
- * Local News
- * Great Shwedagon -The Religious Insignias of pagodas In Myanmar
- * The Great Minds of Myanmar (Anthropologist U Kyaw Win)
- * Local News
- * Rakhine Tourist Area
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Sunee
- * Local News
- * Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- * Myanmar Harpist

Oracle looks to shut down Kiwi America's Cup challenge

from the wrong direction, dragging the event out into a third week.

New Zealand yachting fans, who just a week ago were about to pop the champagne corks to celebrate, are starting to fear the worst and starting to wonder whether skipper Dean Barker can pull off one more win in the face

of Oracle's improved boat speed and crew work.

"I'm struggling to keep positive, my faith in the team and Dean is being sorely tested, we're only one (win) away, but my nerves are a bit like our chances, in tatters," said Wellington office worker Will Christie. Oracle's win in light air on Monday

was its fifth in a row, the longest winning streak in America's Cup history. It's 72-foot catamaran had 3-4 more knots of speed at the start, said Regatta Director Ian Murray on Tuesday. It accelerated past the New Zealanders before the first mark and skipper Jimmy Spithill and crew never looked back.—Reuters



Emirates Team New Zealand (L) sails against Oracle Team USA during Race 17 of the 34th America's Cup yacht sailing race in San Francisco, California on 24 Sept, 2013. REUTERS

President U Thein Sein accepts Credentials of Ambassadors of Luxembourg, Mongolia



NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Mr. Marc Thill, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Grand Duchy of Luxembourg 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 Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Similarly, President U Thein Sein accepted the

Mr. Marc Thill, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to Myanmar presents his Credentials to President U Thein Sein.—MNA

Credentials of Mr. Chimiddorj BATTMUR, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Mongolia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the same venue at 11:30 am.

Present on the occasions were Union Minister U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin.

MNA

Mr. Chimiddorj BATTMUR, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Mongolia to Myanmar presents his Credentials to President U Thein Sein.—MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets Crown Prince of Thailand

BANGKOK, 25 Sept — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann held a cordial discussion with Crown Prince of Thailand Maha Vajiralongkorn to promote friendship between Myanmar and Thailand at Shukhothai Palace in Bangkok yesterday evening.

Likewise, the Py-

idaungsu Hluttaw Speaker held talks with Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij, President of the Senate of Thailand at the Senate of Thailand on 23 September evening.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker also met Mr. Dhanin Chearvanont, Chairman of CP Group of Thailand, at Shangri-La Hotel on 23 September morning.

On arrival at office of CP Group at True Tower yesterday, the Myanmar delegation led by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker was presented activities of the company by Mr. Adirek Sripratak, Chairman of Chatroan Pokphand Foods PCL, and Vice-Chairman Mr. Natthakrit Silvasri.

This morning, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party visited PTT Group in Chonburi Province.

MNA



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann hold talks with Crown Prince of Thailand Maha Vajiralongkorn at Shukhothai Palace in Bangkok.—MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shaking hands with Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij, President of the Senate of Thailand.—MNA

Myanmar-Hong Kong men's friendly cricket match 12-14 Oct

YANGON, 25 Sept—Myanmar-Hong Kong men's friendly cricket match will be held at Shwe Pin Lone Cricket Oval in Yangon on

12 to 14 October.

A total of 20 Myanmar cricket players are undergoing training at the designated grounds.—NLM

Refresher training course on TB care project kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—With the assistance of Global Fund, Myanmar Maternal and Child Wel-

fare Association and the TB control project jointly opened a refresher training course for volunteers

of community based TB Care Project at the meeting hall of MMCWA, here, this morning.



Opening of refresher training course for volunteers of community based TB Care Project in progress.—MNA

Vice-President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Thet Thet Swe addressed the opening ceremony.

It was also attended by CEC members, the Chairperson of Nay Pyi Taw Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, officials of the Health Department, specialists of the National TB disease control department and the volunteers of the Maternal and Child Welfare Associations of the project townships and invited persons.

The two-day course is aimed at widening the scope of the trainees for effective health care services and is being taken by 74 trainees from 69 townships.

MNA