

President U Thein Sein felicitates Federal President, Federal Chancellor of Austria

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Heinz Fischer, Federal President of the Republic of Austria and His Excellency Mr. Werner Faymann, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2013.

MNA

Music fair commemorates 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party enjoy music fair to mark the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—A music fair to mark the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation took place at Myanmar International Convention Center (MICC) in Zabuthiri Township here this evening, attended by Vice-President

Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mikio Numata extended greetings on the occasion.

Later, Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu explained the purpose of holding the music fair and promoting ASEAN-Japan relations.

Afterwards, artistes from ASEAN and Japan and Fine Arts Department

entertained with their traditional dances and songs.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and the Japanese Ambassador presented flower baskets to the music troupes.

The music fair was jointly organized by Japanese Embassy, Japan Foundation and the Ministry of Culture of Myanmar. Ms Michiru Oshima from Japan acted as a music director

of the troupe including 12 musicians from Myanmar, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

It aimed to promote mutual trusts and relations between ASEAN and Japan through creation of new music and to spotlight the traditional music of these countries.

It was also attended by the Union Ministers, deputy ministers, MPs from

Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, departmental heads, staff and their families from the ministries and the Hluttaw Office and the Brunei Ambassador to Myanmar.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Government Order No. (72/2013)

6th Waning of Thadingyut, 1375 ME
(25th October, 2013)

Formation of Work Committee for Legislative Cooperation

- In accord with the provisions of the Constitution, Legislatures are responsible to implement the procedures of holding discussions and passing a bill starting from the day of receipt and sending it to the President for approval and to be promulgated as law. In accord with the power vested by the Constitution, the President is responsible to sign a bill approved or a bill deemed to be approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Legislatures and the President with similar wishes are carrying out enacting, amending and abolishing the laws for the sake of the nation and its people.
- In order to cooperate with legislatures in the legislative procedures, a work committee for legislative cooperation led by the Deputy Attorney-General has been formed as follow:-
 - U Tun Tun Oo Chairman
Deputy Attorney-General, Attorney-General Office of the Union
 - Daw Htoo Htoo Ngwe Member
Director, Attorney-General Office of the Union
(See page 9)



Photographers are seen during the opening ceremony of the Photo Beijing 2013 at the China Millennium Monument in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 Oct, 2013. The Photo Beijing 2013 kicked off on Thursday, offering photographers, curators and artists a platform of communication and cooperation. —XINHUA

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Track & Field athletes pour out efforts in Test Match 2013

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—The Pre-SEA Games Track & Field Test Match continued for the second day at Wunna Theikdhi Training Ground, here, as of 22 October.

Lin Zeyar Naung emerged champion in men's 100-m race, Thet Zaw Win in 400-m race, Kyaw Swa Moe in javalin, Tun Tun Lin in pole vault, Kay Khaing Lwin in women's 100-m

race, Yin Yin Khaing in 400-m race, Soe Soe Htwe in javalin, Myint Myint Wai in long jump and Hnin Yi Wai in pole vault event.

Hnin Yi Wai set new record with 3.27 metres in pole vault event by breaking the old record with 3.26 metres by Nay Nay Win in 2005. A total of 130 athletes including tentatively selected players participated in the test match covering 46 events of



track and field to be included in the XXVII SEA Games. *Kyemon-Sai Nyi Lay, Photo: Shine Htet Zaw*



An athlete at posture of competing in discus event.

Backhoe loader used in garbage collection

PAKOKKU, 25 Oct—Pakokku Township Development Affairs Committee has been in collection of garbage with the use of backhoe loader as of 22 October.

The committee has bought the loader spend-

ing the bank interest from its savings. The township Development Affairs Committee also uses its vehicle for transporting garbage to the designated places.

Kyemon-Aung Mann (Tekkatho)

Container vehicle overturns in Lanmadaw

YANGON, 25 Oct—A container vehicle overturned on new concrete Strand Road near 6th Street in Lanmadaw Township of Yangon at 11.50 am on 23 October.

The container vehicle heading for Botahtaung from Ahlon hit the wall and then

overturned on the right side of new Strand Road.

"The vehicle hit the wall due to high speed, and even those from the wall were injured in the incident," said a rice merchant who witnessed the incident.

In the incident, a vendor



Sanitation

Toyota Surf plunges into drain

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—A Toyota Hilux Surf plunged into the drain in front of Ministry of Communications and Information Technology on 22 October afternoon.

The vehicle plunged off the road coming from the Yazahtani Roundabout and caused accident. In the incident, there was no injury.—*Kyemon-Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)*



Accident

Train derailment at entrance to Kyaukme

KYAUKME, 25 Oct—Five coaches of the train heading for Lashio from Mandalay derailed between mile posts 489/11-13 at the entrance

to Kyaukme Station on 23 October afternoon.

The train was steered by locomotive driver U Than Lwin and U Tun Aung Kyaw

together with guard U Aye.

Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Tin Htay and party, Kyaukme Station superin-



tendent U San Win Bo and local authorities carried out resumption of transport for the passengers.

Officials have reported to the superior for transportation.

Kyemon-563

Personnel of Mobile Team check vessel for illegal commodities.



MYEIK, 25 Oct—A mobile team from Border Trade Camp (Myeik) of Commercial and Consumer Affairs Department inspected vessels at jetties in

Ahtuseik Village of Myeik Township on 22 October morning.

They performed their tasks to check on exportation and importation of commod-

ities with the licences, protection of consumers, trade promotion and minimizing illegal trading.

Kyemon-Myeik District IPRD

Stimulant tablets seized in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 25 Oct—Members of Mandalay and Meiktila District Special Anti-Drug Squads together with witnesses on 22 October raided the house of Ma Aye Aye Win in Region 5 of Kyidawgon Ward in Meiktila and seized 193 stimulant tablets weighing 19.3 grams and K 100,000 believed to be proceeds of stimulant tablets.

According to the investigation, she confessed that

she bought the stimulant tablets from Ko Maung Oo of Kyekhaung on 22 October.

Mandalay Special Anti-Drug Squad opened files of lawsuit against Ma Aye Aye Win, 38 and Ko Maung Oo, 30, under the law.

The Mandalay District Special Anti-Drug Squad officials and witnesses searched Phyto Min Tun (a) Ah Hti, 18, walking along Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road near Chinthemin-3

Lodging and seized six stimulant tablets weighing 0.6 gram bought at K 3000 per tablet from Yan Naing of Yanmyoang Ward.

Mandalay Special Anti-Drug Squad No. 18 arrested Phyto Min Tun (a) Ah Hti, 18, Yan Naing, 21 and Ma Aye Aye Win, 38 under Sections 15/16(c)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Kyemon-Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

WORLD

Obama calls on US Congress to move forward immigration reform this year



US President Barack Obama speaks on immigration reform during an event in the East Room of the White House in Washington DC, capital of the United States, on 24 Oct, 2013. US President Barack Obama called on Congress on Thursday to finish work on an immigration bill by the end of the year. —XINHUA

WASHINGTON, 25 Oct — US President Barack Obama on Thursday called on US Congress to move forward the immigration reform this year, after the once hot-button issue has been overshadowed for months in Washington.

Obama made remarks in a televised White House event, renewing his efforts to build momentum for immigration reform, the top

legislative priority of his second-term.

“We should pass immigration reform. It’s good for our economy. It’s good for our national security. It’s good for our people,” said Obama, “And we should do it this year.”

Obama said although Democrats and Republicans still have some “really big disagreements” on certain issues, everybody knows

the country’s “immigration system is broken” across the country and across the political spectrum.

Obama tried to increase pressure on Republicans in the House of Representatives, saying that now it is up to them “to decide whether reform becomes a reality or not.”

He urged them to pass an immigration reform bill similar to the one that was passed in June by the Senate, which he said was not perfect but still “fair and just” and met “core challenges.”

The Obama administration’s focus on immigration reform has been distracted for months following turmoil in Washington over the National Security Agency’s secret intelligence surveillance, the Syria chemical weapons crisis, the Iran nuclear issue and the recent 16-day partial government shutdown. The issue is also widely expected to meet greater resistance in House of Representatives.

Xinhua

Automatic budget cuts could hit Pentagon harder this year

WASHINGTON, 25 Oct—Months after the US military was hit with a \$37 billion budget cut that threw it into turmoil and confusion, the Pentagon is headed into the new fiscal year facing a similar threat that could have even more devastating consequences, officials say.

The budget deal that ended the government shutdown this month let the Pentagon continue spend-

ing at an annualized level of \$496 billion in the 2014 fiscal year that began on 1 October.

That is about \$31 billion below what President Barack Obama requested for 2014, but about \$21 billion above the caps set by the Budget Control Act of 2011, meaning the Pentagon faces another across-the-board cut unless Congress reaches a new spending deal that changes

the law by mid-January.

And the situation could get worse. Under the 2011 budget act, defence spending is expected to begin growing again in 2015. But a top defence budget analyst said on Thursday that based on historical trends from previous military cut-backs, Pentagon spending could shrink to as low as \$415 billion.

Todd Harrison, an analyst at the Centre for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments think tank, said a drop of that magnitude would force a huge cut in the size of the military, cause the cancellation of many weapons programmes and lead many defence companies to go out of business.

“This would be, you know, catastrophic, if you will, for a lot of procurement programmes.

There would be a lot of glass on the floor at the end of this. You’d break a lot of things,” he told reporters at a briefing on the 2014 defence budget.

Reuters



A United States Marine stands by his post in front of the Pentagon in Washington on 29 Feb, 2012.—REUTERS

Japan’s Cabinet approves bill to toughen penalties for secret leakers

TOKYO, 25 Oct—The Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Friday approved a bill to impose tougher penalties on civil servants, lawmakers and others who leak national secrets and harm national security, amid criticism that it will lead to tighter government control of information.

The legislation is designed to protect confidential information, which Abe has said is “a prerequisite” for Japan to win the trust of and share intelligence with other countries.

The government hopes to pass the bill during the current extraordinary Diet session through 6 December, in time for the planned launch of a Japanese version of the National Security Council to better respond to security threats around Japan.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said preparing a legal framework for protecting state secrets is “an urgent matter” for Japan.

“We will strive to achieve early passage of the bill” through the Diet, the

government’s top spokesman said at a Press conference.

Under the new secrecy law, leakers of “special secrets” — information concerning foreign and defence policy as well as spying and terrorist activities — will face up to 10 years in prison. Individuals who abet leaks could get five-year terms.

“Special secrets,” to be designated by any administrative agency chief, would remain so for up to 30 years, and the duration could be extended with Cabinet approval.

Information likely to be labeled “special secrets” includes the number and capability of weapons, ammunition and aircraft, as well as defence codes and details of negotiations with foreign governments, according to the bill.

Experts have expressed concern that the proposed law grants the government the authority to decide at its own discretion what are “special secrets,” thus strengthening its control of information since the legitimacy of those designations

would not be verified by a third party.

In the run-up to Friday’s Cabinet approval, the government was forced to revise the bill to include provisions that give “utmost considerations” to citizens’ right to know and freedom of the press, at the request of the New Komeito party, the coalition partner of Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party. Still, it is “an obligation to make efforts” to take account of the freedom of the press, rather than a binding requirement, prompting

some experts to argue civil servants would be discouraged from talking to journalists, thus compromising citizens’ right to know.

The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan on Friday submitted a bill to revise the freedom of information act to the Diet, with the aim of protecting the public’s right to know.

The revision would enable courts to judge whether it is legitimate for administrative bodies to withhold official documents.

Kyodo News



Commuters head to work in heavy rain in Kochi, western Japan, on 25 Oct, 2013. Typhoon Francisco was approaching Japan that morning.

KYODO NEWS

Explosion at candy factory in north Mexico kills one, injures dozens



Family members of employees talk to a police officer after an explosion at a candy factory in Ciudad Juarez on 24 Oct, 2013. —REUTERS

CIUDAD JUAREZ, (Mexico), 25 Oct—A boiler exploded at a candy factory in northern Mexico on Thursday, killing one person, injuring dozens and badly damaging the building, officials said.

They said at least one person was killed in the blaze at the factory which is located in an industrial park at Ciudad Juarez, a large city on the US border.

“We’re still searching the area to see if there are more dead,” said Fernando

Motta, head of the city’s emergency services.

He said 11 people were badly injured, four of whom were in critical condition. Thirty people were treated for minor injuries, he said.

A second official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said around 20 people who work at the plant were unaccounted for. It was unclear if they were in the building at the time of the blast.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

New China H7N9 strain gives kick to mutant bird flu research

ROTTERDAM, (Netherlands), 25 Oct — Dutch scientists hidden away in a top-security laboratory are seeking to create mutant flu viruses, dangerous work designed to prepare the world for a lethal pandemic by beating nature to it.

The idea of engineering viral pathogens to be more deadly than they are already has generated huge controversy, amid fears that such viruses could leak out or fall into the wrong hands.

But with China braced for scores more cases of a deadly new strain of H7N9 bird flu, Ron Fouchier and Ab Osterhaus say the benefits of this gene mutation research far outweigh the risks. The experiments, designed to explore H7N9's potential to develop drug resistance and find which genetic modifications might enhance its ability to spread, could offer the know-how to halt a lethal flu pandemic, they say. That could be with well-timed new vaccines or

other therapies tuned to the pandemic strain's genes.

"We're bracing for what's going to happen next. If H7N9 becomes easily transmissible between humans, yes, the case fatality ratio may go down a little from where it is now, but we'd still be talking about millions of people dying," says Osterhaus, the head of a highly bio-secure laboratory in the Netherlands which will lead some of the H7N9 mutation work. "This is a critical question

— what does this virus really need to become transmissible? It is of extreme importance to being able to understand what's going on."

As things stand, 45 of the 136 people known to have contracted H7N9 bird flu in China and Taiwan have died—giving a case fatality rate of around 30 percent. Fouchier, who has already done so-called "gain of function" experiments with another strain of bird flu, H5N1, says we



Doctors and nurses attend a training course for the treatment of the H7N9 virus at a hospital, where a H7N9 patient is being treated, in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, in this 5 April, 2013 file photo.—REUTERS

need to get ahead of the game with H7N9 since its pandemic risk would rise "exponentially" if it gained

in nature what he aims to give it in the lab — the ability to spread easily among people.—Reuters

Astronomers discover most distant galaxy yet

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 25 Oct — Astronomers have found the most distant galaxy yet, a discovery that pushes back scientists' view of the universe to about 700 million years after it is thought to have come into existence. Light from the galaxy, designated by scientists as z8_GND_5296, took about 13.1 billion years to reach the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope and the Keck Observatory in Hawaii, both of which detected the galaxy in infrared light. "We are learning so much about a region so far back in time it's hard to comprehend. This galaxy we're seeing is almost 13.1 billion years ago and so this was something like 8 billion years before our sun was even born and of course much longer after that until life came around," said lead researcher Steven Finkelstein, an assistant professor with the University



An artist's rendering of the galaxy, known by its catalog name z8_GND_5296, in seen this handout provided by NASA on 23 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

of Texas at Austin.

Surprisingly, out of a pool of 43 candidate distant galaxies, z8_GND_5296 was the only one that revealed the key chemical evidence needed to confirm its distance. That left Finkelstein and colleagues wondering if they had uncovered a clue to a bigger mystery: How soon did light from the universe's first stars and galaxies

pierce an obscuring veil of hydrogen gas that existed early in its history? Scientists believe that at some point, high-energy ultraviolet radiation from exploded stars split the intergalactic hydrogen atoms into electrons and protons. Once ionized, the hydrogen would be electrically conductive and no longer scatter light. That may have happened about the time

of z8_GND_5296's existence.

The galaxy, which is about a billion times as massive as the sun, has two unusual characteristics, which may be a factor in why it is visible, while potential sister galaxies are not. First, z8_GND_5296 is forming stars at a very fast pace, pumping out about 100 times more stars than the Milky Way galaxy, so it may be brighter than the other candidate galaxies. Second, it contains a surprisingly high percentage of elements heavier than hydrogen and helium.

Those elements are forged by nuclear fusion inside stars, so either the galaxy contains the exploded remains of lots of massive stars or it formed in a region of space that had been previously seeded with the remnants of a prior generation of stars, scientists said.—Reuters

HP seeking buyers for mobile patents

BANGALORE, 25 Oct — Hewlett-Packard Co is seeking buyers for some of its mobile-computing patents, Bloomberg reported, citing people with direct knowledge of the matter.

The company has approached potential buyers about the portfolio of patents, which include those related to webOS—the smartphone and tablet-computer operating system that HP acquired through its 2010 buy of Palm Inc, people told the

agency. HP sold the webOS operating system to South Korea's LG Electronics Inc earlier this year, but retained the patents and all the technology relating to the cloud service of webOS.

"We don't comment on rumor and speculation," Michael Thacker, a spokesman for Hewlett-Packard told Bloomberg. HP could not immediately be reached for comment by Reuters outside of regular US business hours.—Reuters



A Hewlett-Packard logo is seen at the company's Executive Briefing Center in Palo Alto, California on 16 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Samsung Electronics apologizes to China consumers for mobile phone glitches



The company logo is displayed at the Samsung news conference at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas on 7 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

BEIJING, 25 Oct — South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, the world's biggest smartphone maker, has apologized to Chinese consumers for problems with some mobile phones after a

broadcast on China Central Television criticised Samsung repair policies."

As far as management problems caused inconvenience to our customers, we offer our sincere apologies," Samsung Electronics said in a notice on its Chinese website.

Samsung Electronics is the latest multinational company to be singled out by Chinese state media for what it says are unfair consumer practices. In a 25-minute programme broadcast late on Monday, CCTV said internal multimedia cards cause the software on Sam-

sung Electronics Note and S series smartphones to seize up. Samsung Electronics said it will fix the Galaxy S3 and Note2 telephones free of charge, and refund customers who already paid for repairs to the devices at authorised service centers. The company also will offer replacements or refunds for phones that could not be repaired.

The broadcast on Samsung Electronics came the day after CCTV aired a programme criticising Starbucks Corp for charging higher prices in China than other markets.

Reuters

AT&T profit beats Street by a penny on solid wireless

NEW YORK, 25 Oct — AT&T Inc posted net income that was a penny ahead of Wall Street expectations on Wednesday on wireless profit margins that were better than some analysts expected. While revenue was slightly behind analyst estimates, investors kept the shares steady in late trading because the results were roughly in line

with expectations." Their revenue and profitability were close to in line with expectations, but in the bigger picture AT&T is struggling to grow," said MoffettNathanson analyst Craig Moffett, who cited wireless service revenue growth of 3.7 percent, down from 4.4 percent in the year-ago quarter.

In order to continue

growth, AT&T has said it would consider making acquisitions in Europe, despite misgivings from some investors, but it declined to give an update on this consideration on Wednesday. AT&T, the No 2 US mobile service provider reported 363,000 net postpaid subscriber additions in the quarter, which was better than its year-ago growth and slightly ahead of expectations from eight analysts for over 344,000. But customer additions were well behind bigger rival Verizon Wireless, which reported 927,000 new customers in the quarter on 17 October.

Reuters



The AT&T logo is pictured by its store in Carlsbad, California, on 22 April, 2013.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Caretakers in need of counseling

BEIJING, 25 Oct — Many people working in the public welfare industry often face the threat of “occupational burnout” because of the high-intensity emotional investment, which is one of the reasons why they quit their jobs. Their work means they often face tremendous pressure and mental stress as they try to help disadvantaged groups.

“Our staff often feel mentally and physically drained,” said Zhang Wen, executive director of the Children’s Hope Foundation, which was established in 2010 to provide assistance for orphans and disabled children. Zhang said the work, often emotionally charged, can be challenging.

“We play the role of a giver at work. However, when we see children in danger and their distraught parents, we can be easily heartbroken and depressed.” Even though they try their best to provide assistance to those in need, the workers are often underappreciated by society. Moreover, the working hours are arbitrary and overtime is com-

mon, she said. The nature of the charity sector is to improve the lives of others and society in general but the balance between family and work is not easily achieved. According to a report focusing on hospice workers in the United Kingdom, 30 to 40 percent experienced burnout and planned to leave.

Wu Fei, a program officer from Maple, a women’s psychological counseling centre, said there are less than 15 people at the center, but five of them have left recently and two said they will go part-time in a few months.

Wu admitted she spent little time with her child and needed to work on the weekends. Zhang said the low salary is another reason for the high turnover. “In our organization, about a quarter quit their jobs in a year.

Ordinarily they earn 3,000 yuan (\$500) to 4,000 yuan each month. “I think people who are really willing to work in an NGO for a long time should have a selfless devotion to duty, even, possibly, a heroic determination.”

Chu Ying, a researcher with Tsinghua University’s NGO Research Centre,

from Hepatitis C, an infectious disease affecting the liver, according to a new law signed on Wednesday by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo.” Hepatitis C is a debilitating and potentially fatal disease that disproportionately affects the baby boomer generation in



A staff member with a care center in Tianjin looks after an elderly man in June. Many people working in the public welfare industry could easily be suffering from depression.—XINHUA

said occupational burnout is common. “Professional psychologists or psychiatrists are needed to give psychological counseling to the people working in the public welfare industry. Furthermore, the employers should rotate work regularly.

Chu recognized that the salary and lack of pro-

motion prospects are also a factor. “The salary is quite low even in first-tier cities. For instance, middle managers at some large NGO in Beijing only earn about 5,000 yuan each month,” Chu said. More and more NGOs are taking note and are starting to provide working guidelines.

Xinhua

Branson recalls tears, \$1 billion check in Virgin Records sale

LONDON, 25 Oct — Virgin Group founder Richard Branson recalled that selling his Virgin Records music label more than two decades ago was “like selling your children” even though he pocketed a billion dollars in the deal. Branson, 63, founded Virgin Records in 1972 with three other people, growing the label from a small successful record shop into a powerhouse of the music industry, helping usher in the progressive rock movement of the 1970s and new wave in the 1980s.

The company was purchased by Thorn EMI for \$1 billion in 1992, in part to fund Branson’s Virgin airlines. “Of course, it was very hard—it’s like selling your children,” Branson told Reuters on Wednesday in London at a 40th anniversary of the sale of Virgin Records. “I mean, you build something from

Virgin Group founder Richard Branson speaks at the Institute of Directors annual convention in London on 18 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

scratch, we had just signed Janet Jackson, we had just signed the Rolling Stones when we sold it, and I remember running down Ladbroke Grove, tears streaming down my face with the check for a billion dollars,” he said.

Virgin Records is currently owned by Vivendi SA’s Universal Music Group. The long-haired maverick entrepreneur has become one of the world’s most recognizable businessmen, and is also known for his other ventures in deep-sea submarines, an effort to circumvent the globe in a hot air balloon, and suborbital space travel with Virgin Galactic. “We wouldn’t be building spaceships today if it hadn’t been for that (sale) so it was the right decision,” Branson said.—Reuters



New York State acts to protect baby boomers from Hepatitis C

NEW YORK, 25 Oct — Hospitals and health service providers in New York State will be required to offer a hepatitis C screening test or diagnostic test for baby boomers born between 1945 and 1965.

The move aims to better protect baby boomers

from Hepatitis C, an infectious disease affecting the liver, according to a new law signed on Wednesday by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo.” Hepatitis C is a debilitating and potentially fatal disease that disproportionately affects the baby boomer generation in

New York and nationwide,” Cuomo said.

“This new law will help fight Hepatitis C and keep New Yorkers safe by providing testing to those most likely to have this virus whenever they visit a medical facility.”

Reuters

US arms makers post higher profit, decry budget cloudiness



A visitor looks at a display of miniature Boeing passenger aircrafts at Aviation Expo China 2013 in Beijing in this 25 Sept, 2013 file photo.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 25 Oct — Major US weapons makers posted higher third-quarter profit on Wednesday despite budget cuts, their margins remained largely solid or rose in places, and revenue fell less than expected. But executives at the top four weapons makers—Lockheed Martin Corp (LMT.N), Boeing Co (BA.N), General Dynamics Corp (GD.N) and Northrop Grumman Corp (NOC.N)—said the outlook remains hazy given lingering uncertainty over defence budgets in the United States

and abroad. Raytheon Co (RTN.N) is due to report earnings on Thursday.

The companies say they are weathering the initial stages of the downturn in military spending thanks to aggressive cost-cutting, workforce reductions and facility closures, and a sharper focus on executing contracts on time and on budget. All the major players expect lower revenue and mounting pressure on margins unless Congress reverses a law that would cut Pentagon spending by \$500

billion on top of \$487 billion in cuts already planned for the next decade. Phebe Novakovic, chief executive of General Dynamics, which builds US Navy warships, combat vehicles and Gulfstream business jets, told analysts that the political brinkmanship over the US debt ceiling and the recent government shutdown were sobering reminders that companies need to be cautious and hold on to cash.

“The government took the nation to the edge on the debt ceiling extension. We were forced to gaze into the abyss where we saw the full faith and credit of our principal customer at risk,” she told analysts on a conference call. Novakovic said there was a chance that the entire showdown experience could be repeated in January when the debt ceiling is due to be breached again. “It’s entirely possible that we find ourselves in an extended period of time trapped in Dante’s first circle of hell,” she said.

Reuters

Nissan recalls 153,000 vehicles over braking problems

CHICAGO, 25 Oct — Nissan Motor Co is recalling 153,000 sport-utility vehicles, mostly in the United States, to fix brak-

ing problems, the Detroit News reported on Wednesday. The recall covers 2013-2014 Pathfinder SUVs, 2013 Infiniti JX35, and

2014 Infiniti QX60 crossover vehicles.

The Japanese automaker said that during light braking on rough roads, the antilock brake system (ABS)’s brake pressure output software setting in affected vehicles may lead to longer stopping distances than drivers expect, thus increasing the risk of a crash.

Of the 153,000 vehicles to be recalled, 151,695 are in the United States, and the rest are in Canada, China, Russia, Mexico and other countries. There have been no reports of accidents or injuries related to the problem, said Nissan.

Reuters



253 students ill from suspected food poisoning

HOHHOT, 25 Oct — A total of 253 students and two teachers fell ill from suspected food poisoning on Thursday in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, authorities said on Friday.

The victims are being treated in hospital and are improving, said a Baotou city government spokesman.

The victims from Hui People Middle School in Baotou complained of stomach ache and vomiting around 3:30 pm after having lunch in the school dining hall.

Around 3,000 students had lunch, and pupils who got their meals from the same counter became sick. The school has six different meal counters.

Kitchen workers from the counter are in police custody.

In the city's Donghe district, the school has more than 4,000 junior and senior middle school students, most of whom are ethnic Han.

Xinhua



A fireman works at the fire scene in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 24 Oct, 2013. A big fire broke out at a large rubber dumpsite on Thursday and no casualties were reported. —XINHUA

Firefighters gain upper hand in battle against Australia's Blue Mountains bushfires

SYDNEY, 25 Oct — Australia's New South Wales (NSW) firefighters are continuing to get the upper hand in battling three bushfires in the Blue Mountains, local media reported on Friday.

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) said it may

take weeks for crews to fully extinguish the Blue Mountains fires.

Three "Watch and Act" alerts remain in place for the fires burning at Springwood, Mt. Victoria and Lithgow. The fires in the Blue Mountains have burnt through nearly 60,000 hec-

tares of bushland so far.

As NSW bushfire crisis enters its ninth day, a total of 57 bushfires are still burning across the state, with 20 of them uncontained.

The RFS says firefighters are taking advantage of cooler temperatures to

strengthen containment lines.

"The threat is continuing to ease but we're still asking people to be vigilant because there is such a large amount of fires still active," an RFS spokeswoman told the Australian Associated Press (AAP). —Xinhua



Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh delivers a speech at the Party School of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 Oct, 2013. —XINHUA

China, Australia launch joint graduate school

NANJING, 25 Oct — China's Southeast University and Australia's Monash University have officially opened a joint graduate school in the eastern city of Suzhou, Jiangsu Province.

The Southeast University-Monash Univer-

sity Joint Graduate School is the first sino-foreign graduate facility approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education. The school is committed to providing quality graduate education with global standards and carrying out top-level joint research, said Yi Hong, president of Southeast University, at the launch ceremony on Thursday.

The school will be complemented by a joint research institute to conduct multi-disciplinary projects on nanotechnology, bioinformatics, water, energy and new materials.

A 60,000-square-metre building that houses the school with cutting-edge facilities to support education and future research activities was also officially opened on Thursday.

The joint graduate school began recruiting students on a trial basis in 2012 with five majors, including industrial design, information technology, transportation systems, applied linguistics and international business.

It has already enrolled 219 students. It plans to recruit 500 students annually and is expected to have 1,000 pupils within three years. The first students will graduate next year with masters degrees from both parent institutions. Southeast University is a prestigious Chinese university based in Nanjing City of east China's Jiangsu Province. Monash University, based in Melbourne, is the largest university in Australia in terms of the number of students. —Xinhua

Japan, US eye Vice President Biden's visit to Tokyo in early December

TOKYO, 25 Oct — US Vice President Joseph Biden is expected to visit Japan in early December for talks with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on economic and defence cooperation, a Japanese government source said on Friday.

Biden had originally planned to make a tour to Asian nations in this autumn but been forced to reconsider the plan due to the partial government shutdown in Washington over a budget impasse that ended earlier this month, the source said.

Abe and Biden are likely to share the goal of successfully concluding as early as possible the ongoing negotiations for a Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade accord.

The 12 TPP members, also involving such countries as Singapore, Australia and Mexico, have

sought to reach a broad agreement within the year.

The two leaders will also exchange views on security environment in Northeast Asia, where Japan has faced tensions over a territorial row with China and threats from North Korea's nuclear and missile development programs.

Biden's tour is set to follow a series of cancellations by President Barack Obama of regional and bilateral summits in Asia earlier this month, after he opted to stay in Washington to handle the government closure, which some analysts warned could weaken US influence in the region.

Kyodo News



The US Marine Corps invites journalists to take a look at MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft at the US Marine air station in Iwakuni, Yamaguchi Prefecture on 24 Oct, 2013. —KYODO NEWS

Shooting confirmed on Navy property in US state of Tennessee

WASHINGTON, 25 Oct — A shooting incident occurred on Thursday on a Navy property in Millington, the US state of Tennessee, the US Navy confirmed.

In a statement, the US Navy said the incident occurred at about 12:47 p.m. local time on Thursday at a National Guard facility located near the Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington, Tennessee, about 28 km north of Memphis.

Two National Guards-

men received non-life threatening injuries, and the suspect, also a National Guardsman, was taken into custody, said the US Navy.

The Naval Support Activity was briefly put on lockdown as a precaution, but has since been lifted.

The US Navy and Millington Police Department personnel responded to the incident.

US Navy and US Army are working with local law enforcement to investigate the incident.

Xinhua



Injured people receive medical treatment at a hospital in southwest Pakistan's Quetta on 24 Oct, 2013. At least 10 people were injured when a car crashed with a bus on the outskirts of Quetta on Thursday, local media reported. —XINHUA

LOCAL NEWS

Taking census discussed in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area



Officials make clarification on taking census 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—A ceremony to clarify taking census in eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area was held at Zabuthiri Beikman Hall in Nay Pyi Taw Council Office on 20 October afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Myint,

Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Maung Maung Than, member Col Myint Aung Than and officials, Deputy Head of Region Immigration and National Registration Department U Nay Win, departmental officials of eight townships, ward and village administrators,

the chairman of census committee and members, and NGO members.

Secretary of Central Census Supervisory Commission Deputy Minister U Win Myint made a speech and explained matters related to taking census in detail.

MMAL-139

Gold foil industry in Mandalay booming in cold season



Workers at production of gold foils in Mandalay.

MANDALAY, 25 Oct—Gold foil production, a traditional industry in Mandalay, is booming in cold season and attracting tourists.

As cold season is a time to offer gold foils to the pagodas across the nation through tender, gold foil production is on high demand, said Daw Thein Thein Win of Shwe Lamin Gold Foil Industry.

“Tenders were invited for offering gold foils to Shwedagon, Kyaikhtiyo Pagodas and Maha Muni Buddha Image. Especially, Maha Muni Buddha Image invites tender for gold foils thice a year. The high demand size of the gold foild is in two square inches. Gold foils are fixed at prices depending on

over K 30000 per 100 sheets of gold foil,” she said. The workers have to take at least one year for production of

gold foils. The workers can earn K 400 per one packet of gold foil. Every worker can do 5-6 packets of gold foils a day and the skilled workers, 10 packets a day.

“Gold foils are made in Myetpa Ward of Mandalay in its tradition. Before starting the work, most of the entrepreneurs paid respects to the traditional gods. During working hour, five hours per one packet of gold foil can be made, the workers start their works as of 4 am daily,” said U Nyunt Hsan, gold foil maker.

Significantly, gold foil production can be undertaken in Myetpa Ward between 77th and 80th streets and 35th and 37th streets due to its tradition.

Kyemon-Min Htet Aung (Mdy Sub-Printing House)

National Sports

Myanmar boxers to take part in muay event of SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—Myanmar boxers have much prospects to hope gold medals in the boxing event of the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar, said Secretary of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Tin Hlaing.

“Our boxers are under training at Nay Pyi Taw Gold Camp for securing gold medals. We have planned to take joint

training abroad before the SEA Games. Now, they are taking training in Nay Pyi Taw. As Myanmar is a host nation, our federation hopes one or two gold medals in both men or women event,” he continued.

In the SEA Games, the boxing event will be classified into eight classes for men and six for women.

The boxing matches will be held through point

system like that of muay event. Muay event based in traditional boxing and international boxing events will be included in the SEA Games. So, Myanmar traditional boxers are in training to take part in the events. The boxing events will be staged from 8 to 15 December at Wunna Theikdhi Sports Complex.—MMAL-Maung Shwe Yoe



Talks on taking census given

PWINTBYU, 25 Oct—Talks on taking census was held at the hall of General Administration Department in Pwintbyu on 22 October.

After Township Administrator U Thet Oo Swe had made a speech, Staff Officer U Myint Sein of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Myint Sein gave talks on taking census.

MMAL-Township IPRD

The clarification on taking census 2014 was made at the hall in Kyaukme on 22 October morning, attended by about 600 people. Deputy Head of Kyaukme District Immigration and National Registration Department U Kyaw Kyaw explains taking census.—MYANMA ALINN



Medicines donated for SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—As medical assistance for the athletes who are taking training for the SEA Games, Chairman of Myanmar Badminton Federation U Maung Maung Swe (Great Wall Asia Construction Co) donated 300 pieces of Diclo-Denk 75 Injection at Wunna Theikdhi Gymnasium C

Complex of Nay Pyi Taw on 22 October.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik accepted the donations.

Next, the deputy minister enjoyed competition in the second day of the Pre-SEA Games Badminton Test Match.

MNA



At the invitation of Seoul-based Honbeot Welfare Foundation of the Republic of Korea, a delegation led by U Myat Oo, Chairman of Myanmar Disabilities Association left here by air for the Republic of Korea. The delegation members seen at Yangon International Airport before their departure on 20 October.—MYANMA ALINN

Take Fire Preventive Measures

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 26 October, 2013

Toward better economic performance

From Stone Age to this age of IT, human evolution has never parted from invention and innovation. Inventors and innovators have been the pioneers along the course of evolutionary path and societies with many ground-breakers tend to develop faster than the others.

Lack of innovation has ever been a major hindrance to development of Myanmar which is lagging behind the rest of Asia despite sitting on abundant natural resources. Often, we are too unwilling to explore the new paths or in other words disinclined to take risk in doing business.

It has been a deep-rooted tradition in Myanmar that once a business begins to thrive, many others enter the market. But most of the time, newcomers fail to embark on innovation and expand their businesses. It is fundamentally the ideas with which a business is run and unfortunately many businessmen here fail to notice it.

Today, we need undoubtedly to work hard to be able to catch up with our neighbours. But working hard in robotic manner is not the solution; we need to work smart using our brains thinking out of box.

While Myanmar's economy still belongs to primary industry, we have to concede the lion's share of the output of our natural resources to foreign companies because of a lack in human, physical and financial capital required to exploit them.

Developing economies which have abundant and cheap workforce, in practicing export promotion policy, tend to start with developing labour extensive industry, for example, textile industry. However, the CMP industry here has yet to come a long way as expected. There have been industrial disputes and age-old problem of daily power cuts for the government to handle.

Meanwhile, classy banking system is a must to boost international trade. Stable inflation rate, balanced budget, foreign trade and exchange rate are requisite for the stability of the macro economy. We hope all the developments will be combined with proper management and right decisions to bring fortunes to Myanmar people.



Stop! when pedestrians are at the zebra crossing

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Indian entrepreneurs association marks reception on eve of Deepavali Day

Ceremony to ignite the light in commemoration of Deepavali Day at Myanmar International Convention Centre in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—A reception on the eve of Deepavali Day organized by Myanmar-Indian entrepreneurs association, was held at Myanmar International Convention Centre,

here, yesterday.

Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs U Soe Win, Minister-Counsellor of the Indian Embassy

Mr Sailas Thangal and U Maung Maung Oo of the association ignited the light in commemoration of the Deepavali.

Secretary of Myanmar Hindu Central Organiza-

tion U Kyaw Thu extended greetings.

Deputy Minister U Soe Win in his address said that the government provides necessary assistance for holding the religious ceremonies of respective faiths. Everybody can enjoy freedom of worship. He called on all the religious association members to live in amity and to serve the interest of the nation.

The Indian Minister-Counsellor made a speech.

U Maung Maung Oo of the association presented garlands and shawls to the Union Ministers, the deputy ministers and guests.

Later, those present were served with dinner and entertainments of Indian traditional dance troupe.

Also present were the Union ministers, deputy ministers, the Chief of Myanmar Police Force and officials.—MNA

Myanmar delegation visits WATEC 2013-Israel

YANGON, 25 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint attended WATEC Israel 2013—"Water Technology and Environmental Control Exhibition & Conference" held at the Israel Trade Fairs

and Convention Center Tel-Aviv, Israel from 22 to 24 October, 2013, the Israeli Embassy reported.

WATEC exhibition is the largest and most important water, energy & environment industry event in Israel as well as a show case for the most advanced technologies and solution

around the world. Israel is famous for exploitation of Natural resources (Water, Soil, Energy & materials).

During their visit, they joined numerous meetings and functions with a large number of Israeli companies. Minister of Economy Naftali Bennet and Minister for Regional Development Energy and Water Resources Silvan

Shalom of Israel hosted a lunch to the Myanmar delegation.

The visit of the two Chief Ministers takes place during the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the State of Israel and Myanmar and is the first high-ranking official visit from Myanmar to Israel in 20 years.—MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister meets guests from FAO

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung received a delegation led by Chief Technical Advisor Mr. Giuseppe Romalli of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) at his office

yesterday morning.

They had a cordial discussion on implementation of livelihood rehabilitation projects in cooperation with FAO under Environmentally Sustainable Food Security Programme of the region.—MNA

Moderate quake hits outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.3 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Andaman Islands, India Region) about 275 miles southwest

of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 00 hr 27 min 36 sec M.S.T today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

Six-hour power cuts in some Yangon townships

1. Damaged 33 KV power lines of 230/33 KV (100) MVA transformer in Thakayta main power station and three transformers are in urgent need of repair, replacement and testing.

2. There will be a temporary power cut in some townships during repairs and testing. Operation of 230/33 KV (100) MVA Transformer No.2 in Thakayta main power station will be stopped from 9 am to 3 pm on 27 October, 2013 (Sunday).

Six-hour power outages will be in following wards and townships:

- (1) wards in Thakayta and Dawbon Townships;
- (2) Thingangyun Townships (Zawana, Sa-Ka, Bokannyunt, Laydauntkan, Nga-Ka, Mi Chaung Kan, Wayzayandar, Thadu, Sethein, Na Nwin Kone, Yan Aung, Ka, Kha, Ga, Gagy, Yangon Thit, Nga-Kha, Maykha and

Malikha Housing, Nga Moe Yeik, Sanpya wards, Pyidaungsu Yeikmon, Pinlon, Kyipwaryay (south/north), Kanthaya and Eiksitant Housings);

(3) Dagon Myothit (North) Township (10, 28, 29, 30, 38, 45, 43 and 16 wards); and

(4) Dagon Myothit (South) Township (Kywayma Housing, Top Star Housing and Inwa Housing, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 53, 55, 56, 57, 64, 65, 70, 72, 105, 106 and 107 wards).

3. Stopping power distribution during repairs and installations can reduce losses in damaged part of power line and avoid the damages to power system. Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB) has apologized to the public for power blackout.

Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB)

NATIONAL

Formation of Work Committee for Legislative Cooperation

(from page 1)

- (c) U Aung Naing Member
Director, Attorney-General Office of the Union
- (d) U Min Swe Member
Deputy Director, Attorney-General Office of the Union
- (e) U Thant Zin Member
Deputy Director, Attorney-General Office of the Union
- (f) U Win Myint Secretary
Deputy Director-General, Attorney-General Office of the Union

3. Functions and duties of the work committee are as follow:-

- (a) Providing legal advices to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Speakers of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw when they asked for the work committee's legal advices.
- (b) Cooperating with bill committees or joint committee of the legislatures when the work committee has been invited to hold discussions on a bill.
- (c) Analyzing and making suggestions to sign a bill approved when it was sent to the President to be promulgated as law.
- (d) Providing legal advices to the department for formulation of bylaws and rules and regulations regarding the law.

4. Regarding the legislative matters, legal advices can be given to the President.

5. Invitations can be made, if necessary, to the legal advisory team of the President and department concerned that is going to exercise the law for suggestions related to the relevant subject during the collaborative procedures for making suggestions on the bill. It can be reported, if necessary, to the Union Government while making invitations.

6. The work committee is to cooperate with bill committees and joint committee of the legislatures when being invited to make cooperation in legislation on other matters in addition to the bill.

By order
Zaw Than Thin
Secretary
Union Government

Meeting on steady progress of capital market development toward Myanmar stock exchange discussed

YANGON, 25 Oct—Jointly organized by Ministry of Finance and Daiwa Institute of Research, Japan Exchange Group of Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Finance, Japan, a meeting on steady progress of capital market development toward start-up of Myanmar stock exchange in 2015 was held at Park Royal Hotel, here, this morning including prominent speakers of Japan and Europe.

Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Maung Maung

Thein and President of Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Finance, Japan Mr Hiroshi NAKAHARA extended greetings. The deputy minister expressed his thanks to Japan government and scholars from Japan for development of monetary law in Myanmar. He also expressed his belief that the development of monetary sector is directly proportional to development of the nation and the stock exchange market would be implemented in 2015 when the conditions

favour. Moreover, he said treasury bonds laws are being discussed by experts at the moment and therefore the monetary jobs will be developed soon.

The president of Policy Research Institute said he would try to create better monetary sector in Myanmar, to cooperate experts to create monetary human resources and to discuss detailed plans to come out security exchange law, security exchange market and exchange company. Only when the monetary sector

blooms, will the nation develop, he added.

The prominent speakers from monetary departments of Japan participated in the discussion and those present asked questions. The draft of SE Law was published in government daily newspaper in August, 2012 in order to develop monetary works in Myanmar. In 2013, meetings on monetary sectors and signing MoU was carried out. Efforts are being made to come out stock exchange market and public companies now.—Sagawah

Ambassadors from ASEAN countries observe preparations for 27th SEA Games



Ambassadors from ASEAN countries observing preparations for 27th SEA Games.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—The ambassadors from ASEAN member countries led by the Brunei ambassador to Myanmar arrived at Wunna Theikdhi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw to observe preparations for holding 27th SEA Games where they were conducted round by Deputy Minis-

ter for Sports U Zaw Win yesterday afternoon.

The respective com-

mittee members made clarifications on the queries of the delegation

MNA

Air Services Consultation between Myanmar and Japan held

YANGON, 25 Oct—An air services consultation between the aeronautical authorities of Myanmar and Japan was held at the Department of Civil Aviation on 22-24 October.

It was attended by Myanmar delegation headed by U Tin Naing Tun, Director-General of the department and a Japanese delegation led by Mr. Taro KOBAYASHI, Director

(Air Talks), Civil Aviation Bureau under the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan.

After the consultations, the two sides signed a Record of Discussions comprising provisions with regard to traffic rights, routes rights and code sharing arrangements for the designated airlines of both countries.

According to the Record of Discussions, a

designated airline of each country may operate scheduled air services between Myanmar and Japan without limitation on frequency, capacity and aircraft type. After making necessary amendments to the Air Services Agreement between the two countries, more designated airlines will have opportunities to operate those services.

NLM

ASEAN shooting teams perform controlled practice



Participants from ASEAN countries doing shooting practise.—MNA

A total of ten shooting ASEAN Armies Shooting Contest from 29 October to 9 November.—Myawady

Mandalay to get cargo port ...

(from page 16)

arrangements are being made for construction of a cargo port in Mandalay.

“Feasibility studies are being conducted for construction of a cargo port in Mandalay for loading and unloading of commodities. Moreover, we hope to build six cargo jetties in some places of Ayeyawady and Chindwin rivers, said Director U Aye Thiha of Royal Tree Services that cooperates with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) of Japan in its tasks.

With regard to the implementing the project, the cargo port of Mandalay must be given

a guarantee that the property and buildings of the port are not moved. Thus, it is necessary to assess everything whether the social economic status of the local people residing around the proposed place of the port and their environment will have impacts from the project implementation or not. That is why officials should meet local people to seek their attitudes and remarks.

At present, the site was chosen for construction of freight-handling port on the circular road and the bank of Ayeyawady River in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay. A plan is underway to build the cargo port that can handle

about two million tons of cargo per year.

Now, the feasibility are underway. Preparations have been made to seek the approval for the project. As booming businesses can cause larger volume of commodity flow, Upper Myanmar will need cargo ports. At the precinct of Pawdawmu Pagoda in Mandalay, arrangements have been made to hold a meeting between the officials and local people on attitudes and desires of the local people for construction of the port in Mandalay.

Myanma Alinn:
25-10-2013
Trs: TTA

Construction

Progress of repairing damaged bridges inspected



Inspection tour of Chief Minister U Tha Aye on repairing of damages of bridge in Kalay Township.

KALAY, 25 Oct—Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye, Sagaing Region Minister for Transport U Aung Zaw Oo, Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Sein Mung, departmental officials and chairmen of district and township management committees inspected

damaged bridges caused by floods at the end of September in Kalay Township on 23 October.

Recent floods caused damages to many bridges such as Nankalein Bridge on Kalay-Gangaw Road, Seikkantha Bridge in Pinlon Ward of Kalay, Upokchaung Bridge in front

of People's Hospital, Tada U Bridge on Bogyoke Road, Zeechaung Bridge near Sekkant Village, Pyitawtha Bridge near Pyitawtha Village, Hsegyi Bridge near Hsegyi Village and Natdaga Creek Bridge on the North-West Road and progress of repairing works.

Kyemon-Ju Nine

Seikkantha Bridge substituted with temporary one in Kalay

KALAY, 25 Oct—Seikkantha Bridge linking Bogyoke Road and Pinlon Lanmadaw Road in Kalay was damaged by floods at the end of September.

At present, the temporary bridge has been built for convenient travelling of students from Basic Education High School No 3 and local people.

New wooden bridge, six feet and 116 feet long, was built by Kanbawza Bnak of Kalay, spending over 3.9 million kyats.

Kyemon-Ju Nine



Newly-built temporary bridge across the creek in use for smooth transportation of local people.

Development

Deputy Commissioner meets district committees

PAKOKKU, 25 Oct—Pakokku District Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Win met with members of District Management Committee, Township Administrator, the chairman of Township Development Supportive Committee, the chairman of Township, Development Affairs Committee, officials of township level departments and ward administrators at the meeting held at the

hall of the District Deputy Commissioner on 23 October.

They discussed keeping Pakokku clean and pleasant, removal of squattered shops, betterment of drains for proper flow of water, greening of both sides along Pakokku-Yesagyomyaing-Kanmaroad, raising pass rate in matriculation examination and security measures.—Kyemon-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)

Refresher course for Auxiliary Fire Brigade members conducted

YANGON, 25 Oct—The refresher course for Auxiliary Fire Brigade kicked off at the fire station in Insein Township of Yangon North District on 7 October.

It was attended by the deputy commissioner of Yangon North District and township administrators, Staff Officer U Zaw Win of Insein Township Fire Services Department and members, 50

trainees, Vice-Chairman of Sein Yadana Funeral Service Association, Staff Officer Grade II of Yangon North District Red Cross Brigade U Htein Lin and party.

Deputy Commissioner U Lin Ko Ko of Yangon North District made a speech.

The training course will run from 7 October to 1 November.—Kyemon-Myint Oo (Insein)

Older persons receive health care with traditional medicines

NYAUNGLEBIN, 25 Oct—The health care services were given to older persons from the Home for the Aged on Setyon Road in Ward 1 of Nyaunglebin Township in Bago Region.

Head of Nyaunglebin Township Traditional Medicine Department Daw Yi Yi Win and staff, Saya U Aye Shwe of Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Council (Central) and Saya U Htay Win of Nyaunglebin Township Traditional Medicine Department provided health care services to the older persons.

From 20 May 2011 to date, the traditional medicine practitioners have been providing health care to the aged twice a month, explained Head of Nyaunglebin Township Traditional Medicine Department Daw Yi Yi Win.

“As older persons from the home are facing health

in bad condition due to older age, they need to receive health care services. Thus, officials of the Traditional Medicine Department and doctors give health care to them,” said a responsible person of the home.

A grandma said that they are pleased for health care services free of charge by health officials.

Health Care

Township Traditional Medicine Department and Township Traditional Medicine Practitioners Association will give more health care services to the aged in their future plan.

Kyemon-568



Crime

Illegal sawn timber seized in Sagaing

SAGAING, 25 Oct—Assistant Director U Thant Zin-2 of Sagaing District Forest Department, Staff Officer U Kyaw Kyaw Oo of Township Forest Department, Foresters U Win Naing and U Myo Naing, Rangers U Than Zaw, U Nyunt Win Tun and U Kyaw Min Naing together with police squad led by Police Major Tin Aung Kyaw and local authorities discharged duty of searching illegal timber in the Railways Ward of Sagaing on 22 October.

They saw pieces of illegal sawn teak timber and Tamalan timber from Nissan vehicle driven by U Saw Naung Naung and conductor U Kyaw Soe from Madaya Township near Tezawtayon Monastery of Sagaing.

The seized timber pieces were 0.8746 tons of teak timber, 2.5372 tons of Tamalan and nine Tamalan logs weighing 0.3030 ton.

The seized timbers were kept in the compound of Podan Forest Office.

Kyemon-Myo Win



Yangon City Development Committee is striving for ensuring convenient travelling and smooth transportation of the people. With the aim of keeping traffic accidents and congestions from away, Engineer in-charge U Cho Win and party of Road and Bridge Department of Ahlon Township Development Affairs Committee repairing damaged road sections on Lower Kyimindine Road in front of Ahlon Myoma Police Station on 24 October morning.

KYEMON-TIN MAUNG Oo (AHLON)

REGIONAL

Thailand to raise airport tax

BANGKOK, 25 Oct — The Airports of Thailand (AoT) board of directors has agreed on the need to raise the airport departure tax for both domestic and international passengers by 100 baht (about 3 US dollars), AoT Chairman Sita Divari said on Thursday.

The departure tax for domestic flights would rise from 100 baht to 200 baht, and from 700 baht to 800 baht for international flights, Sita said.

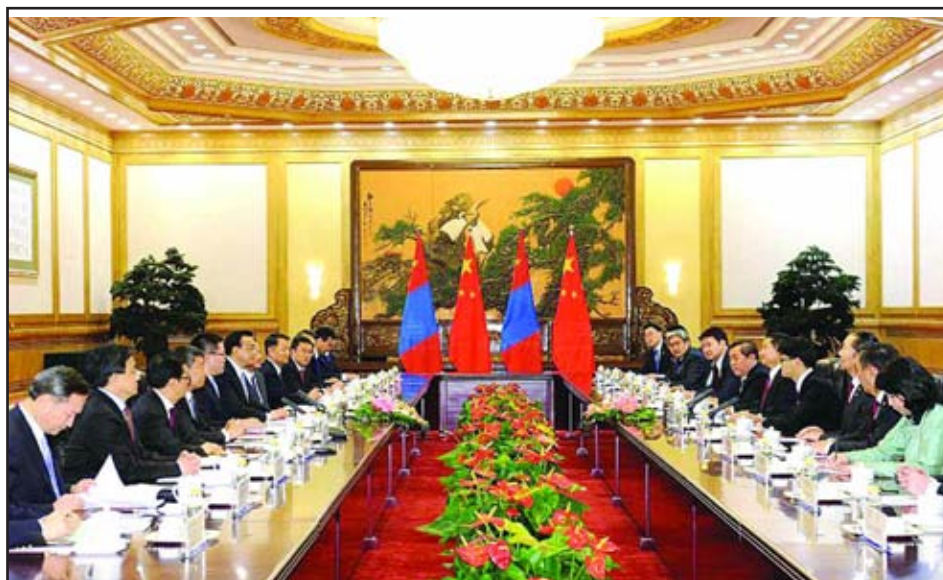
The increase still needs final approval from aviation and transport authorities.

The new fees would apply at all airports operated by AoT when approved.

The latest attack on tourists' wallets comes on top of the government's move to charge foreigners a new arrival tax at airports and land border crossings.

The government is considering a plan to charge foreigners a 500-baht entry fee from January next year.

Xinhua



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang holds talks with Mongolian Prime Minister Norov Altanhuyag in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 Oct, 2013. —XINHUA

Aquino warns of disease outbreak in quake-hit C Philippines

MANILA, 25 Oct — Philippine President Benigno S Aquino III warned on Thursday of a possible disease outbreak in central Philippine Province of Bohol if the earthquake-displaced families there would continue to stay in evacuation centers.

Aquino, who again visited the most quake-devastated province and stayed there overnight, ordered the concerned government agencies to

speed up rebuilding efforts that will enable displaced residents to return to their homes the soonest possible time.

The displaced victims of the quake would be exposed to harm with their prolonged stay in the tents, said Aquino, while admitting that he was concerned that an outbreak of disease could take place.

"When you're inside the tent, you're exposed to all kinds of element," he

said, adding that he did not want another problem to arise.

According to the Philippines' National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), out of 631,605 families, or over 3 million individuals, affected by the magnitude-7.2 quake on 15 Oct, about 336,900 people were displaced and served both inside and outside the evacuation centers in Bohol.—Xinhua

Sri Lanka to open second Chinese funded highway

COLOMBO, 25 Oct—Sri Lanka's President Mahinda Rajapaksa will open the country's second highway built with Chinese funding this weekend ahead of a crucial Commonwealth summit, the President's Office said here on Thursday.

President's Office confirmed to Xinhua that President Rajapaksa will declare the highway open on Sunday morning amidst much celebrating. The new expressway will cut travel time from the airport to the capital's outer limits to less than 20 minutes.

The highway has been opened to the public since Tuesday allowing large numbers of youth and school children to stroll along the empty tarmac.

Several events have been organized in the run up to the opening including bicycle races and concerts. For the first time in Sri Lanka an elephant race was also staged near the starting point of the highway as the ruling party looks to get the most publicity out of

the 292 million US dollar highway.

The highway is funded by the Chinese government through a loan from the China Export Import Bank (EXIM). It was begun in August 2009 and was expected to be opened in July 2013.

However despite delays the government was determined that it should be opened ahead of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) hosted by Sri Lanka next month.

Most of the heads of State from the 53 Commonwealth countries will now use this highway to reach Colombo for the most important summit of the bloc to be held in Sri Lanka on 10-17 November.

Since Sri Lanka ended a 30 year war in 2009, China emerged as the island's largest loan provider with 1.2 billion US dollars in loans in 2009 and 821 million US dollars in 2010. In 2011 the amount fell to 784.7 million US dollars, but China remains

Japan to set goal for future energy mix in three years

TOKYO, 25 Oct — Industry minister Toshimitsu Motegi said on Friday the government will set a goal for Japan's future energy mix in three years' time, taking account the amount of renewable energy available and the number of nuclear reactors in service.

"We will set a goal for the best energy mix in three years and establish it in 10 years," the economy, trade and industry minister told a Press conference.

He said he will consider moving up the schedule for setting the target if possible.

The government is in the process of crafting a medium-to long-term energy plan that reflects the situation after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster in 2011, which has raised concerns over the use of atomic power.

Industry ministry officials have already indicated that specific percentages for energy composition, such as

nuclear power, will not be included in the plan to be compiled by the end of the year, apparently because of the difficulty of foreseeing the country's future dependence on nuclear energy at the moment.

All 50 commercial reactors in Japan are offline and are required to clear a set of safety requirements introduced in July to resume operating. Because of the new regulations, utilities could be forced to shut down some reactors permanently.

The government is legally required to review the so-called Basic Energy Plan at least every three years by taking into consideration changes in the energy situation.

The previous plan compiled in 2010 aimed to boost the nation's reliance on nuclear power to some 50 percent of its energy needs in 2030 from around 30 percent before the disaster.

Kyodo News



Japanese pianist Noriko Ogawa performs during a ceremony to kick off the Japan cultural week in Teheran, Iran, on 24 Oct, 2013. —KYODO NEWS

Singapore's authority seizes largest heroin in 2013

SINGAPORE, 25 Oct —Singapore's Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) made the largest haul of heroin yet in 2013, seizing about 4 kilograms of the drug, with estimated worth of more than 428,000 Singapore dollars (about 345,000 US dollars), the authority said on Thursday.

The two suspects,

one Singaporean and one Malaysian, were caught early on Thursday morning, when they were in the midst of their meeting at a multi-storey carpark in North Singapore.

Both men are being investigated for drug trafficking.

If convicted, the two men may face the death penalty.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 24 Oct, 2013 shows the train collision site on the Qinghai-Tibet railway line in northwest China's Qinghai Province. One person was killed and three others were seriously injured after an empty train hit a parked passenger train on the Qinghai-Tibet railway line in Qinghai on Wednesday. The collision happened at around 8:10 pm when the empty train, operated by Golmud East Railway Station, crashed into the No 7581 passenger train just outside the station.

XINHUA

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEIYO SAPHIRE VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expense and subject to the bylaws 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 ECL (S'PORE)

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Italian household wealth solid, needs more efficient management

MILAN, 25 Oct— Italian households remain sound from a patrimonial point of view in spite of the economic crisis, but a more efficient management of wealth would make a vital contribution to stabilizing household incomes, a study showed on Thursday.

According to the second UniCredit-Pioneer Investments Savings Observatory Report, presented by a panel of experts in Milan, the savings rate of Italian families is expected to slightly improve in 2013

from 8.4 percent in 2012 to 8.9 percent.

The study said recession-hit households were gradually regaining their confidence and resources, after savings per household, which stood at 6,000 euros (8,280 US dollars) in 2007 or 12.6 percent of the available gross income, fell to 3,400 euros in 2012.

The strong liquid and bond components of the portfolios were combined with traditional investments in insurance and mutual funds, invested for the most part in low-risk areas.

According to the study, at the end of 2012, Italian families had a per-capita net wealth of 145,000 euros, lower than that of French households with 164,000

euros, but much higher than the German households with 119,000 euros.

The strong performance of shares, mutual funds and bonds enabled financial assets to appreciate in value by 4.1 percent last year, helping bridge the gap compared with the pre-crisis values at the end of 2007.

Furthermore, the effects of an upturn in economic activity is expected to lead to a significant improvement in households' confidence and budgetary constraints in 2014.

"The study shows that consolidate savings have withstood the economic crisis thanks to the attention of investors and financial stabilization," said Roberto

Nicastro, General Manager of UniCredit, one of Europe's leading commercial banks.

Political stability and consequent implementation of major structural reforms, however, remain fundamental to stimulate household confidence and revive domestic consumption, Nicastro highlighted.

Sandro Pierri, CEO of the global investment management group Pioneer Investments, added that if on the one hand conservative investments made it possible to limit volatility, on the other hand, with the gradual normalisation of markets, it would be also advisable to increase the exposure to higher-risk investments.

Xinhua

Twelve people held hostage in southwestern German city Freiburg

BERLIN, 25 Oct—A 36-year-old man is holding 12 people hostage in the southwestern German city of Freiburg on Thursday evening, local police said.

According to local media reports, the repeatedly convicted man barricaded

12 relatives and friends in a fast food restaurant he owns shortly after 7 p.m. local time. The hostage-taker, whose motive is still unknown, is believed to be armed and dangerous. In addition, he had threatened that he had bombs with him,

a police spokesman said.

Police officers have made contact with the man by phone to get him to surrender. The surrounding area has been sealed off and a special police unit is in operation on the scene.

Xinhua

Dutch police arrests suspect burglary on Russian building in The Hague

THE HAGUE, 25 Oct— The Dutch police has arrested a 43-year repeat offender on suspicion of a burglary at a house managed by the Russian embassy in The Hague last week, the police said on Thursday.

Last Thursday, the property near the Russian embassy was broke into and some personal belongings went lost. The building was

used as a house for embassy staff.

The police are investigating whether the suspect was responsible for other burglaries in the area. He has been arrested for similar offenses in the past.

Ties between the Netherlands and Russia have been tense over the seizure of Greenpeace ship Arctic Sunrise that was sailing un-

der the Dutch flag by Russia. It now holds 30 crews of the ship, including two Dutch nationals.

Three weeks ago, Russian diplomat Dmitry Borodin was taken from his home by police after complaints from neighbors about him abusing his children. A Dutch diplomat in Moscow was assaulted at his home later on.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 23 Oct, 2013 shows a vehicle sliding out of the road in Hexigten Banner, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. A heavy snowstorm hit Hexigten on Wednesday, affecting local traffic and local people's life.—XINHUA

UN seeks help to relocate residents of Iranian exile camp in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Oct —The United Nations on Wednesday launched a trust fund initiative to help relocate residents of an Iranian exile camp near Iraq's capital Baghdad.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged UN member states to contribute to the fund to cover relocation costs of some 3,000 people now living at Camp Hurriya, according to a statement. Ban is com-

mitted to resolving the situation faced by the former residents of Camp Ashraf — now residents of Camp Hurriya (Liberty) — "in accordance with international human rights and humanitarian standards," said the statement.

In late 2011, the Iraqi government and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq struck a deal to move Camp Ashraf residents in Diyala province to

Baghdad temporarily until the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) gets the refugees resettled in a third country.

Over the past years, Camp Ashraf has been attacked several times. On 1 Sept, a raid to the camp killed 52 residents. PMOI claimed that the attack was launched by the Iraqi government.

Xinhua

UN agencies, partners taking stock of humanitarian crisis in eastern DRC

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Oct — Emergency directors of eight UN agencies and non-governmental organizations are in Goma, a city in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), to take stock of the humanitarian crisis that has displaced more than one million people in North Kivu, UN spokesman Martin Nesirky said here on Wednesday.

The emergency directors visited on Tuesday Bulengo, a site hosting more than 55,000 internally displaced people, Nesirky said

at a daily news briefing, adding "The delegation also met with North Kivu authorities."

They went to the town of Kibirizi, western Rutshuru, on Wednesday, where they saw the distribution of relief items for more than 2,000 displaced people, he added. On behalf of the delegation, John Ging, director of operations of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), said the visit was a sign of solidarity with the people of North Kivu and

a testament to the commitment to deliver humanitarian assistance to those most in need, the spokesman said.

When asked about a World Food Programme (WFP) announcement that it would scale back activities in the DRC because of a lack of funds, Nesirky said that the purpose of the trip by the United Nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is to raise the spotlight on humanitarian needs and the funding shortfall.

Xinhua



A clown child acts in a street during the 18th International Clown Convention, in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 23 Oct, 2013. The International Clown Convention takes place from 21 to 24 October.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Prince William and Kate hold private christening for new prince

LONDON, 25 Oct — Britain's Prince George was christened on Wednesday in a service attended by just 21 guests, a small and private ceremony for a baby whose parents want to shield him from too much media intrusion.

Prince William, whose mother Diana was hounded by paparazzi and died in a car crash in Paris in 1997, and his wife Kate invited only very close family and godparents to the ceremony

— since his parents carried him out of the London hospital where he was born on 22 July.

In the arms of his mother as she left the palace's Chapel Royal, George was dressed in a long cream satin robe that was a replica of an 1841 gown made for the christening of Queen Victoria's eldest daughter.

Kate, a style icon whose outfits often increase sales of similar garments, wore an off-white, ruffled skirt-suit,

wife Camilla, and William's brother Harry attended the service in which Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby baptised the prince with water from the River Jordan.

"George is being brought up in a world very different from Prince William's childhood but the royal couple really is obsessed by privacy and I hope that does not impinge too much on their lives," said Ingrid Seward, editor-in-chief of *Majesty* magazine

royal dignitaries, a decision that continued their effort to portray a more informal, modern image to austerity-hit Britons.

Kate's parents, Michael and Carole Middleton, and her sister Pippa were among the guests. A friend of Princess Diana, Julia Samuel, was one of the godmothers alongside Kate's schoolfriend Emilia Jardine-Paterson.

Clarissa Campbell, historian of monarchy at Anglia Ruskin University, said scaling back the number of royals at events and putting Prince William and Prince Harry at the forefront had boosted the royal family's popularity that flagged after Diana's death and a several royal marriage breakdowns.

"It's also very much Her Majesty's wish that the royal family is not seen as an expensive institution in these days," Campbell told *Reuters*.

Although the service was held behind closed doors, well-wishers gathered to watch guests drive in and out of the palace commissioned by King Henry VIII.

"We're dying to see Prince George but I totally respect their decision (for privacy). It's their child," said Maria Scott, 42, draped in a British flag, who travelled 300 miles (500 km) from Newcastle in northern England for the day.

Reuters



Britain's Prince William carries his son Prince George, as he arrives with his wife Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge for their son's christening at St James's Palace in London on 23 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

ny in the 16th century St. James's Palace in central London.

Television pictures gave the public the first glimpse of the baby — third-in-line to the throne

made by British fashion house Alexander McQueen, and pillbox hat by British milliner Jane Taylor.

Queen Elizabeth, her husband Prince Philip, heir apparent Prince Charles, his

and author of "A Century of Royal Children".

The parents named six friends and William's cousin Zara Tindall as godparents, breaking with the tradition of choosing mostly



Amanda Bynes will reportedly be allowed to go the beach or eat outside

Amanda Bynes allowed supervised outings twice a week

LOS ANGELES, 25 Oct — Troubled star Amanda Bynes will be allowed out of rehab twice a week for supervised outings.

The 27-year-old actress was placed under an involuntary psychiatric hold in July after her wild behaviour led to her allegedly being diagnosed with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, but she appears to be on the road to recovery, reported Fox News online.

"Amanda is being given two passes a week to go the beach, or out to eat and do things like that, accompanied by a professional handler. She is making great progress," a source said.

The Easy A star was moved to The Canyon

treatment facility in Malibu at the end of September after spending two months at UCLA Medical Centre and has reportedly been told she will 'lead a long, normal life' as long as she continues to take her medication.

Amanda's mother Lynn was granted a temporary conservatorship over her daughter in August, shortly after she was taken to a psychiatric unit by police officers, who arrested her after she struck up a small fire in the driveway of a stranger's home in Thousand Oaks, Los Angeles. Amanda's parents released a statement about her progress two months ago and said they were upbeat about her recovery.

PTI

Pearl Jam beats Paul McCartney to top of Billboard 200 chart

LOS ANGELES, 25 Oct— In a battle of veteran rockers, Pearl Jam beat former Beatle Paul McCartney to the top of the US Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday.

"Lightning Bolt," the 10th studio album by Seattle band Pearl Jam, who rose to prominence in the early 1990s grunge-rock movement, sold 166,000 copies in its first week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

British musician McCartney, 71, came in at No 3 on the album chart with his latest record "New," which sold 67,000 copies. That was behind Miley Cyrus' "Bangerz," which

dropped one spot to No. 2 this week.

The Billboard 200 chart measures both physical and digital album sales in the United States on a weekly basis.

Other new entries in the chart's top 10 this week include folk-rock group Avett Brothers at No 5 with "Magpie & The Dandelion," while "American Idol" winner and country singer Scotty McCreery landed at No. 6 with his latest set, "See You Tonight."

Country music singer Willie Nelson came in at No. 9 with his latest record "To All the Girls," featuring duets with some of country music's longtime female

stars including Dolly Parton and Loretta Lynn.

Indie folk rockers The Head and the Heart rounded out the top 10 with its sophomore effort, "Let's Be Still."

On the digital songs chart, which measures single track downloads, rapper Eminem shot to the top with his new single "Rap God," knocking New Zealand singer Lorde's "Royals" to No. 2 and Katy Perry's "Roar" to No. 3.

Overall album sales for the week ending October 20 totaled 4.7 million, down 11 percent from the comparable week in 2012, Billboard said.

Reuters



Members of the band Pearl Jam (L-R), Stone Gossard, Mike McCready, Matt Cameron, Eddie Vedder, and Jeff Ament of the film "Pearl Jam Twenty" pose during the 36th Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) in Toronto, on 10 Sept, 2011.

REUTERS

Five stay perfect as Defoe leaves Spurs on brink



Tottenham Hotspur's players celebrate a goal scored by Jermain Defoe during their Europa League soccer match against Sheriff Tiraspol in Tiraspol, on 24 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 25 Oct — Goals from Jan Vertonghen and Jermain Defoe left Tottenham Hotspur on the cusp of the Europa League knockout stages as four other clubs maintained perfect starts on Thursday.

Fiorentina, Salzburg, Eintracht Frankfurt and Ludogorets joined Spurs on nine points from three games with a place in the last 32 beckoning.

Twice UEFA Cup winners Sevilla needed a late goal to take a point at Slovan Liberec but La Liga rivals Valencia continued their recovery after an opening defeat by thumping St Gallen 5-1.

Defoe, with his sixth Europa League goal in four games, equalled Martin Chivers' club European record of 22 for Spurs with the second goal in a 2-0 win in Moldova over Sheriff Tiraspol.

Former England striker Chivers was part of Spurs' UEFA Cup-winning side of 1972.

Spurs could have qualified for the last 32 with three group games still to play but needed Anzhi Makhachkala and Tromso to draw in the other Group K game. Anzhi won 1-0, though, to leave Spurs waiting a bit longer.

Vertonghen headed

home Christian Eriksen's 12th-minute cross and Defoe struck from 25 metres with 15 minutes remaining.

Substitute Victor Machin equalised two minutes from time as Sevilla salvaged a 1-1 draw against Slovan Liberec in the Czech Republic to stay top of Group H with seven points.

The hosts led through Michael Rabusic's first-half goal but had goalkeeper Premysl Kovar dismissed on 78 minutes and Machin rounded his replacement Lukas Hrosso to level late on. Valencia, UEFA Cup winners in 2004, ran riot in the first half against St Gallen at Mestalla, Argentine Federico Cartabia scoring two of four first-half goals.

The Spaniards moved on to six points in Group A, one behind Swansea City who conceded a penalty in stoppage time that secured Kuban Krasnodar a 1-1 draw in Wales.

Fiorentina, fresh from a remarkable fightback from 2-0 down to beat Juventus 4-2 in Serie A on Sunday, brushed aside Romania's Pandurii 3-0 in Group E while Salzburg continue to impress.—Reuters

Man United are vulnerable, says Stoke manager Hughes

LONDON, 25 Oct — Former Manchester United striker Mark Hughes believes his old club are "a little bit vulnerable" as he prepares his Stoke City side for Saturday's Premier League clash at Old Trafford.

New United manager David Moyes has endured a rocky start since replacing Alex Ferguson in the close season and his side have already dropped 13 points in eight matches.

Hughes has also found things difficult since taking

over as manager of Stoke but believes it might not be a bad time to be playing the champions.

"There are only a certain amount of games you can lose," Hughes told a news conference. "They've lost three and maybe they are a little bit vulnerable at the moment."

"Five or six defeats enable you to still be in the title race. Lose any more than six then you make it very difficult, nigh on impossible, for yourself."



Stoke City manager Mark Hughes gestures during their English Premier League soccer match against Manchester City at the Britannia Stadium in Stoke-on-Trent on 14 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

United are eight points behind leaders Arsenal but Hughes said the departure of Ferguson, who won 13 league crowns at Old Trafford, would inevitably lead to a dip.

"Some players can deal with change easier than others," said the Stoke boss. "That may be the problem there in regards to their slow start, it can take time to find your comfort zone."

"I am not privy to the information. I am just guessing it may be one of the factors there," added Hughes.

"I think David probably expected the reaction he has had because he has stepped into the shoes of a great footballing man. It will be difficult for any manager of Manchester United."

Hughes believes United will still be in the mix for the title despite their slow start.

"They are a little bit adrift at the moment but if you ever question Manchester United, more often than not they will hit back with the answers," he said.

"I would think that they will be there or thereabouts come the end of the season."—Reuters

Ibrahimovic escapes ban for gun gesture

PARIS, 25 Oct — Paris St Germain striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic escaped a ban on Thursday for mimicking pointing a gun at the opposition bench in a Ligue 1 game against Toulouse last month.

The Sweden striker made the gesture when he was replaced during the match on 28 September but rather than a ban, a disciplinary hearing on Thursday simply reminded him of his

future conduct.

French champions PSG, who are top of the Ligue 1 standings with 24 points from 10 games, travel to St Etienne on Sunday.

Ibrahimovic, who has scored five league goals this season, has been in terrific form lately, netting four in Wednesday's 5-0 away demolition of Anderlecht in the Champions League.

Reuters



Paris Saint-Germain's Zlatan Ibrahimovic controls the ball during their Champions League soccer match against Anderlecht at Constant Vanden Stock stadium in Brussels on 23 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

Alonso goes to bed 'proud' even in 'Vettel era'



Ferrari Formula One driver Fernando Alonso (front) of Spain signs autographs for fans at the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida on the outskirts of New Delhi on 24 Oct, 2013.

REUTERS

GREATER NOIDA, (India), 25 Oct — Fernando Alonso may have conceded the Formula One world title but the Ferrari driver is not losing any sleep over Se-

bastian Vettel's domination on the track.

Red Bull's Vettel is on the cusp of his fourth successive world title and second-placed Alonso, who

trails the German by 90 points ahead of Sunday's Indian Grand Prix, admitted it was merely a formality.

Asked if he found it difficult to accept that he was racing in the 'Vettel era', the Spaniard contested: "No. Obviously I'd like to win. I'm still 32, so it's not the last year of my career."

"I will ensure I will have more opportunities. I'd like to win more championships. In the last four

years, I fought for three world championships. I finished three times second, which is obviously sad but... I'm extremely proud.

"I think I'm doing the best races of my life this year. So when I go to bed, I'm extremely proud."

Alonso saw no point in trying to delay what appears inevitable and would rather focus on getting more podiums than try and prolong Vettel's crowning moment.

Reuters

No-nonsense Serena keeps it simple with third win

ISTANBUL, 25 Oct — Round-robin formats at tennis tournaments can cause confusion but Serena Williams has an easy solution, just keep winning.

The American crushed Petra Kvitova 6-2, 6-3 to complete her stroll through the Red Group at the season-ending WTA Championships, looking unbeatable in the process.

World number one Williams, looking to retain her title, has won all three matches at the Sinan Erdem Dome without a dropped

set, leaving her rivals to scrap over the runners-up spot in the section.

China's Li Na is also unbeaten in the White Group after a 6-3, 2-6, 6-3 victory over Serbia's Jelena Jankovic on Thursday.

The world number five was forced to fight hard by Jankovic in the only match in the tournament to go the distance so far.

With second seed Victoria Azarenka playing her final match on Friday, Li is still not guaranteed to reach the last four as Jankovic

will be expected to beat already eliminated Sara Errani.

Li leads the standings but she, Azarenka and Jankovic could all end up with two wins apiece.

"Matches are always tough with Jelena because she is a very different player. Today I was running a lot, forward and backward on the court," Li said.

"Now it is one foot in the semis but another foot still out of the door so I have to see how it goes tomorrow."

Italy's Errani has lost both her matches in straight sets and cannot qualify because Jankovic snatched a set from Li.

Reuters



GENERAL

Israel says to announce more settlement building



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gestures during a joint news conference with his Italian counterpart Enrico Letta during a meeting at Chigi Palace in Rome on 22 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

JERUSALEM, 25 Oct — Israel said on Thursday it would press ahead with plans to build in existing Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, in an apparent bid to appease hardliners opposed to peace talks with the Palestinians.

Local media said new building tenders could be announced next week, as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in particular seeks to douse opposition from right-wingers in his government to a planned release of Palestinian prisoners.

“In accordance with understandings reached on the eve of the restart of peace talks with the Palestinians, in the coming months Israel will continue to announce it will build in

settlement blocs and in Jerusalem,” part of the statement by the unnamed official said.

“Both the Americans and the Palestinians have been aware of these understandings,” the statement added.

There was no immediate comment from either of those parties.

The announcement came a day after Netanyahu and US Secretary of State John Kerry met in Rome where the Israeli-Palestinian talks were on the agenda.

The pro-settler Jewish Home party, one of Netanyahu's main coalition partners, said on Thursday it would propose a bill to bar the release of Palestinian prisoners, which has been linked to the talks.

The US-brokered dis-

cussions were revived in July after a three-year hiatus but have shown few signs of progress.

Israel's chief negotiator, Tzipi Livni, said in Tel Aviv on Thursday she could not divulge any details but a senior Palestinian official in the West Bank town of Ramallah described the talks as very difficult.

Jerusalem is one of the most divisive issues in the talks on creating a Palestinian state in territories Israel captured in a 1967 war.

The sides are also divided over the future of Israeli settlements, where borders should run and Palestinian demands for a “right of return” for refugees and their descendants.

Israel regards all of Jerusalem as its “eternal” capital. In a move never recognized internationally, it has annexed the city's eastern sector.

The settlements that Israel has built in the West Bank and East Jerusalem are considered illegal by most countries. Israel cites historical and biblical links to the areas, where about 500,000 Israelis now live alongside 2.5 million Palestinians. They want those two territories and the Gaza Strip for a future country but fear that more settlement building will deny them a viable state.

Reuters

UN nuclear agency chief to meet top Iran negotiator

VIENNA, 25 Oct — The UN atomic agency chief and a senior Iranian nuclear negotiator will meet on Monday before a new round of talks over the Islamic state's disputed atomic activities, the agency said on Thursday.

Yukiya Amano, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, will meet with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi for about an hour at the IAEA's Vienna headquarters, it said.

“The meeting will provide an opportunity to exchange views on the way



International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Yukiya Amano attends a meeting with Japan's Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshimitsu Motegi to talk about the tsunami-crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant issue at Motegi's ministry in Tokyo on 9 Oct, 2013.

REUTERS

forward,” the IAEA said in a statement. It gave no details.

The fact the Amano-Araqchi meeting appeared to be scheduled at short notice may be seen as a further sign of the new Iranian government's desire to try to end international deadlock over the country's nuclear programme. It will be followed by a new round of negotiations on 7 and 8 November

in Geneva between senior officials from both sides over a stalled IAEA investigation into suspected atomic bomb research by Iran, which denies the charge.

Neither Amano nor Araqchi is due to take part in those previously scheduled talks, which will be the 12th such meeting since early 2012. The IAEA-Iran talks have so far failed to yield a breakthrough deal that would allow the agency to resume its inquiry. But the election of relatively moderate Hassan Rouhani as Iranian president in June

has raised hopes of a possible resolution to the nuclear dispute.

Araqchi played a key role in separate negotiations that resumed in Geneva last week between Iran and six world powers - the United States, Russia, China, France, Germany and Britain — aimed at finding a diplomatic settlement.

Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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- * Travel To The Southern Part of Shan State(Kalaw)
- * World News
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- * Myanmar's Beauty and Nature “Beach”
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- * Beautiful Sun Rise in Mrauk U
- * Reflections of Tango Period (Part-1)
- * Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon

Seve Trophy should be worth Ryder points - Olazabal

LA BARGANIZA, 25 Oct — Jose Maria Olazabal has called for Ryder Cup qualifying points to be made available at the Seve Trophy in order to entice the top golfers to play in the biennial match between Britain & Ireland and Continental Europe.

Olazabal led Europe to a 15-13 win over Sam Torrance's Britain & Ireland side at St Nom La Breteche on the outskirts of Paris earlier this month but the competition was something of a damp squib.

Rory McIlroy, Justin Rose, Lee Westwood, Ian Poulter and Luke Donald were among several leading players to shun the event and the match attracted small crowds and generated little me-

dia attention. “We all owe something to Seve (Ballesteros),” said Olazabal of the late Spaniard who won five majors in a swashbuckling career that lit up the European Tour. “And it would be really good to see the top players competing.

“I think to make it fit as a legacy to Seve we need to have the really top players playing in it. That would make it a fantastic tournament. “Maybe they could get points that would count towards Ryder Cup qualification. That would make it more appealing and more interesting.

“It is a team event after all,” Olazabal told Reuters in an interview.

The 47-year-old Spaniard, who also led Europe to a remarkable Ryder Cup

comeback victory over the United States in Illinois last year, had mixed feelings about the absence of the tour's leading lights at St Nom La Breteche.

“I was a little sad some of the top players didn't play but on the other hand I understand most of them have a tight schedule,” said Olazabal.

“They were committed to the FedExCup in America and they knew they also had four very important events in the European Tour's Final Series at the end of the year that are going to be crucial for them so I guess they have to have time off here and there.

“But I've always believed the Seve Trophy can be a very important tournament,” said Olazabal while



Spanish golfer Jose Maria Olazabal instructs a child during a golf clinic in La Barginiza, near Oviedo, northern Spain on 23 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

attending the Nespresso Trophy final for amateur golfers in San Sebastian, Spain where the company

was announced as the official coffee supplier for the 2014 Ryder Cup.

“The format is beau-

tiful because we don't play much match play any more and the atmosphere is great.—Reuters

Encouragement given to production of exportable traditional medicine

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—At today's 14th-day session of Pyithu Hluttaw, U Nyan Swe Win of Kyaukkyi Constituency raised a question whether there is a plan to encourage production of Myanmar traditional medicines to be able to penetrate into the local and foreign markets.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Than Aung replied that the Traditional Medicine Department supervises production of traditional medicines in line with prescribed rules and Traditional Medicine Law. In addition, the department encourages systematic pro-

duction for domestic use and to penetrate into the foreign market.

Questioner U Nyan Swe Win remarked, "Traditional medicine can be produced with least side effects through modern technology. It can penetrate into the foreign market, spending least cost."

With regard to the question raised by U Aye of Homalin Constituency on extension of exam centre at Moungham Model Village Basic Education High School in Homalin Township in 2013-14 academic year and construction of school building at

Myoma BEHS Branch in Yathedaung by Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yathedaung Constituency, Deputy Minister for Education Dr San Lwin replied that matters related to the exam centre will be submitted to the management committee of Ministry of Education and the fund will be allotted for the new school building at Myoma BEHS branch in 2014-15 fiscal year after seeking approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Today's session came to an end in the afternoon. The 15th day session will be held on 28 October.

MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discusses Additional Union Budget Allocation Bill

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—Additional Union Budget Allocation Bill's fundamental principles was discussed by U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No.6 at today's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

He continued that stern actions should be taken against those who fail to follow the Budget Law. He pointed out that the budget requests for the projects by some economic ministries show unbalanced figures. These budgets should get the go-ahead from the Union government after being scrutinized by the Ministry

of National Planning and Economic Development. Staffers who are in charge of public finance need to avoid malpractices. Spending of a large sum of money in the name of project is not in conformity with financial and accounting rules, he added.

It is reported that MPs will continue discussing that bill at 7th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Thurein Zaw said that budget demand is 8.4%, and it should be less than 10% of the original budget. Last year's budget demands saw 12%-13%.

All budgets are acceptable all in all.

President's messages on allowing the resignations of Rakhine State High Court Judge Daw Si Si and member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Myanmar Vice-Governor U Than Nyein were put on record and so did the message on extended formation of Htoogyi town in Ingapu Township of Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Region, which was sent by the President Office.

The 7th day session continues on 30 October.

MNA

Myanmar, Japan sign exchange of notes

YANGON, 25 Oct—Myanmar and Japan signed the exchange of notes on 5.1 billion yen for the project for development of ICT system for central banking, 231 million yen for establishment of disastrous weather monitoring system (Phase II), and 81.9 million yen for improvement of TV programs and broadcast editing equipment of Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) at the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, here, this afternoon.

On behalf of the Union Government, Deputy Minister Dr Daw Khin San Yi and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mikio Numata, on behalf of the Japanese Government, signed and exchanged the notes.

Japan will provide Yen



Deputy Minister Dr Daw Khin San Yi and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mikio Numata shaking hands after exchanging notes.—MNA

23.58 billion to Myanmar this year including 5.4 billion yen of present assistance.

The present three

exchange of notes are the tenth, eleventh and twelfth notes of exchange between Myanmar and Japan year 2013.

Myanmar Railways invites public suggestions and complaints

While striving for providing good service to the public, public relations centres are being kept open at small and large railway stations across the country by Myanmar Railways, enabling the people to make suggestions and complaints by mail or in person there Myanmar Railways is dealing with public complaints by mail or in person.

The head office of Myanmar Railways is also dealing with public complaints sent by mail daily. Public Service As-

essment Working Group of Myanmar Railways (Head Office) is coordinating with departmental heads in order to respond to the daily voices of people. As a response to the public voice, Myanmar Railways carried out minor and major repair works along up-and-down-railroads in the areas of relevant divisions of Myanmar Railways. With the aim of widening the horizons of passengers, 18 mini book corners have been opened so far in cooperation with the Information and Public Re-

lations Department.

Moreover, clearing bushes on both sides of Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad section between Sagaing Bridge and Nant-siang railway station and railroad maintenance works are underway with added momentum.

So, it is hereby to make public that suggestions and complaints can be sent to the head office and divisions of Myanmar Railways through public relations centres in railway stations.

Myanmar Railways

Since September 2012, Japan has been providing Myanmar with financial aids.

At the signing ceremony, the Japanese Ambassador said that Japan provides its continuous support to Myanmar's reform process and extends a helping hand to implementation of infrastructure for socio-economic development of Myanmar people.

It was attended by Deputy Ministers U Ye Htut, U Zin Yaw and Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Set Aung and officials from the Japanese Embassy.

At 3 pm, Vice-Governor U Set Aung of CBM and Chief Representative Mr. Tanaka Masahiko signed the grant agreement for development of ICT system for central banking at CBM meeting room.

MNA

Union FM felicitates Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of Austria

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Michael Spindelegger, Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2013.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (25-10-2013)

Thaton	3.71 inches
Mrauk U	3.58 inches
Kyauktaw	2.24 inches
Kyaikkhami	2.13 inches

Mandalay to get cargo port soon

Nowadays, larger volume of commodities flows into regions across the nation. Efforts are being made for ensuring smooth transportation of commod-

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe:
Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)

ities not only by train and ensure swift and smooth car but also through waterway transport daily. To flow of commodities, (See page 9)



Photo shows the site proposed for construction of cargo port in Mandalay.