

Plans to be made for quake-hit victims reaching normality and can restart livelihood



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivering speech at the coordination meeting on rehabilitation in quake-hit areas.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov — Chairman of the work committee for rehabilitation in quake-hit areas, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham called for allocating the expenditure for the livelihood and rehabilitation of the victims from the disasters fund and called on ministries for funding the rehabilitation tasks.

At the coordination meeting on rehabilitation in quake-hit areas at the President Office here today, the Vice-President also urged participants of the meeting to report the tally of loss and damages, to work together with the central committee in attempts not to cause failures in

rehabilitation works and to quickly response to the needs of the quake victims.

The 6.8 M earthquake struck about 45 miles north of Shwebo, Sagaing Region and about 82 miles north of Mandalay at 7.42 am on 11 November, destroying religious edifices, homes, shops, governmental buildings, schools, hospitals, clinics, banks and police stations and leaving some people dead and injured.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadana Theinga) which is under construction across the Ayeyawady River and linking Kyaukmyaung and Singu collapsed due the earthquake, killing and

wounding some people.

The work committees are to be organized to speed up the rehabilitation tasks in the quake-hit areas, he said.

He also stressed the need for timely releasing information related to the works and for announcing contacts for donation for the rehabilitation via media so that donors at home and abroad can donate cash at their convenience.

Plans are to be made for the quake-hit victims until they reach their normality and they can start their career for their livelihood, he added.

To be able to provide

medical care to the injured effectively, he urged the Ministry of Health to set up the emergency medical teams and to send them to the quake-hit villages and urged the Ministry of Religious Affairs to invite donors to renovate the religious edifices.

The ministries concerned are to make plans to reconstruct the buildings of the respective ministries, he said. After that, Vice-Chairman of Work Committee for Rehabilitation of earthquake-affected regions Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye reported on the outbreak

of earthquake, losses and reconstruction of religious edifices, departmental buildings and houses in earthquake-hit townships in the Region, death toll and number of missing persons and relief and rehabilitation tasks and follow-up programme.

Afterwards, Vice-Chairman of Rehabilitation Committee for earthquake-hit regions Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint also presented the report on earthquake hit-areas areas, damaged buildings, reconstruction, relief, rehabilitation, preventive

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US welcomes Syria opposition, pledges more aid

PERTH, 14 Nov—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Wednesday called the formation of a new opposition coalition in Syria an important step

that would help Washington better target its help, but she stopped sort of offering full recognition or arms.

France earlier became the first European power

to recognize Syria's new opposition coalition as the sole representative of its people and said on Tuesday it would look into arming rebels against President Bashar al-Assad once they form a government.

Six Gulf Arab states recognized the coalition on Monday but the United States wants to see the new opposition demonstrate it can influence events on the ground in Syria.

"We have long called for this kind of organization. We want to see that momentum maintained," Clinton told reporters in the Australian

city of Perth.

"As the Syrian opposition takes these steps and demonstrates its effectiveness in advancing the cause of a unified, democratic, pluralistic Syria, we will be prepared to work with them to deliver assistance to the Syrian people."

Twenty months into their bloody uprising, fragmented Syrian opposition groups struck a deal in Qatar on Sunday to form a coalition led by Damascus preacher Mouaz Alkhatib, who appealed for international recognition.

Clinton announced an extra \$30 million in aid to

those affected by the war in Syria after talks in Perth involving her Australian counterpart, Bob Carr, and U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and his Australian counterpart, Stephen Smith.

Clinton said the \$30 million would help get food to hungry people inside Syria and to refugees who have fled to Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq.

The aid would be provided through the World Food Program, which is supplying food aid to more than one million people in Syria and nearly 400,000 refugees in neighboring countries.

Reuters

Summary of observations at 9.30 hr MST on 14-11-2012

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershower has been fairly widespread in Shan States, scattered in Rakhine State, isolated in Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Regions, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States with isolated heavy falls in Yangon Region, weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.—NLM



746 patients undergo eye surgeries at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital

YANGON, 14 Nov — According to an offer of cash assistance from Myanmar Eye Care Program-MECP of Australia for giving free eye surgeries to 5000 eye patients including monks and nuns, the administrative board of Jivitadana Sangha Hospital

launched a program to give free medical treatment to eye patients. Twenty-three eye specialists who work there on a voluntary basis performed eye surgeries to 746 out of 1608 registered-patients with eye complaint starting from 3 September. The remaining 862 patients

have got appointments to undergo eye surgeries.

On 27 October, Honorable Coordinator Dr. Geoffrey Cohn of MECP presented K 37 million for 1000 patients to Chairman U Maung Maung of the board of the hospital.

Kyemon

New aircraft for Air KBZ lands at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 14 Nov— A new French-made ATR 72-500 airplane bought by Air KBZ Ltd arrived at Yangon International Airport on 11 November. Two more will arrive in January and April in 2013. When two ATR 72-600 airplanes arrive, the airline

will operate more flights to NyaungU, Mandalay, Heho and Thandwe during the peak season, and flights to Nay Pyi Taw, Kengtung, Monywa and Homalin will be made again.

With the use of four ATR 72-500 airplanes and two ATR 72-600 airplanes,

Air KBZ Ltd will operate regular flights to Yangon, Mandalay, NyaungU, Heho, Myeik, Dawei, Kawthoung, Tachilek, Kalay, Myitkyina, Thandwe, Sittway, Lashio, Nay Pyi Taw, Kengtung, Monywa, Homalin, Kyaukpyu, Putao and Bhamo.— *Kyemon*



Shwekyar robe-weaving contest on 27 November

YANGON, 14 Nov — The 30th Shwekyar robe-weaving contest will be held at Botahtaung Kyaikdaeat SandawU Pagoda on 14th Waxing of Tazaungmone (27 November).

There will be 16 looms in the competition and outstanding looms will be presented handsome prizes. Myanmar traditional orchestra will entertain pilgrims at the ceremony.— *Kyemon*



Thailand Trade Fair-2012 in Yangon, Mandalay

YANGON, 14 Nov — Thailand Trade Fair-2012 will be held in Yangon and Mandalay in December on a grand scale.

It is aimed at inviting Myanmar businessmen to do business with Thai partner as sales representatives. More than 400 booths will be opened at the Fair from 9 am to 6 pm. At the Trade Fair held

at Tawwin Centre in Yangon, 6 and 7 December will be set as Trade Day and public will be allowed to visit the Fair on 8 and 9 November. At the Trade Fair held at Diamond Centre in Mandalay, 13 and 14 December will be set as Trade Day and public will be allowed to visit the Fair on 15 and 16 November.

Kyemon

Rakhine dwellers pay for SIM cards in installments

SITTWAY, 14 Nov— With the aim of ensuring better communications in Rakhine State, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications are selling K 200,000 GSM SIM cards to local people under the installment plan.

It is learnt that SIM cards will be sold up to December. Sales of SIM cards are being carried out under the supervision of township administrators and local people can but the SIM cards with the

recommendations of village administrators.

Subscribers can pay for the SIM cards in 16 monthly installments after paying K 40000 for the first month. An official of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications in Sittway said that local people would be able to enjoy the low price if there was a drop in price for Sim card. So far, nearly 7500 SIM cards have been sold to local people in Rakhine State.— *Kyemon*



NyaungU to celebrate Shwezigon Pagoda Festival on a grand scale

NYAUNGU, 14 Nov — The 953rd Tazaungdine Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Historic Shwezigon Pagoda will be held from 21 November to 13 December in NyaungU on a grand scale. One of four Buddha Tooth Relics is being kept enshrined at the Pagoda built by King Anawrahta and King Kyansittha.

From 11 Waxing to 6 Waning of Tazaungmone, members of Sangha will recite *Parittas* at Shin Arahan Prayer Hall and people will present alms and provisions to members

of Sangha. From 8 Waxing to 6 Waning of 7 Waning Tazaungmone, Sayadaws will deliver sermons in the precincts of the Pagoda.

On the Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmone, alms-offering ceremony will be held in the precincts of the Pagoda at 7.30 am and wellwishers will share merits gained at 9.30 am.

During the festive days, drama troupes will perform entertainments, a volleyball contest will be held and various kinds of goods will be on sales. As Swedawshin Shwezigon Pagoda Festival is coincided with the peak season, the festival is accompanied by a huge influx of tourists.

Kyemon

Open season attracts more tourists



MANDALAY, 14 Nov— As foreign airlines started operating regular flights to Mandalay International Airport in October 2012, Mandalay sees a 50 per cent rise in arrival of tourists. Visitors from Thailand, China, Japan, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom, Australia and the US take Bangkok-Mandalay

flight of Thai Airways. While in Mandalay, they flock to cultural heritage and natural beauty-rich Amarapura, Sagaing, Mingun, PyinOoLwin and Bagan-NyaungU. A group of tourists from Thailand made a bike tour of Mandalay, Sagaing, Amarapura, Mingun, PyinOoLwin from 20 to 28 October.— *Kyemon*

Waterfalls in Yamethin Township to generate electricity

YAMETHIN, 14 Nov — While rural region development and poverty alleviation scheme is gaining momentum, plans are underway to generate electricity from waterfalls in Yamethin Township with the contributions of Mandalay Region

Government and local people. Upon completion, YeU waterfall can generate 150 megawatts for five villages with more than 1300 households and Ngahsongyi waterfall in Intaing village can supply electricity to three villages with more than 1000 households.— *Kyemon*

WORLD

Common interests about eurozone still prevail between Britain, Italy

ROME, 14 Nov—Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti said on Tuesday that common interests prevail between Italy and Britain despite some disagreement after meeting his British counterpart David Cameron in Rome.

The two countries' positions present some points that "do not fit perfectly together, but common interests prevail" regarding the EU budget 2014-2020 which aims at spurring growth and developing competitiveness, he told a joint Press conference.

Monti added that Italy is "less convinced than the UK about the idea of a reduction of the EU budget."

"Since the EU has to overcome an economic crisis, and is taking on its shoulders additional burdens —state members will still have to keep on checking the expenses, and in this respect we go hand in hand with the UK, but we also believe they need adequate resources to face these additional and major challenges," the Italian premier said.

He pointed out that the European balance especially must be an instrument to promote growth, innovation and employment. "Italy is the third largest contributor to the EU budget and in 2011 has registered a net



Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti attends a joint Press conference with and his British counterpart David Cameron after their meeting in Rome, Italy, on 13 Nov, 2012.

XINHUA

negative balance equal to 0.38 percent of the gross national income," he said.

Cameron, who has threatened to veto any above-inflation rise in the EU's 2014-2020 budget, said both countries are making difficult decisions about spending.

"The European Union must start spending efficiently and effectively so to give more prosperity to tax payers," he said.

However, he agreed with Monti that the "banking union is vital for the single currency," and Britain is ready to give its support as long as "financial services are safeguarded."

Xinhua

CPC congress begins closing session, new central committee to be elected

BEIJING, 14 Nov—The 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) started its closing session here Wednesday morning, at which a new CPC Central Committee and a new Central Commission for Discipline Inspection will be elected.

Delegates to the congress are also expected to pass resolutions on the report of the 17th CPC Central Committee, the work report of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and an amendment to the CPC

Constitution. Hu Jintao, Jiang Zemin, Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao, Jia Qinglin, Li Changchun, Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, He Guoqiang and Zhou Yong-kang were present at the closing session, which was presided over by Hu.

A total of 2,307 delegates and specially invited delegates attended the session. The congress, which opened on 8 Nov, was held at the decisive stage of completing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects.—Xinhua



The closing session of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 14 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

Spanish inflation rate reaches 3.5 percent in October

MADRID, 14 Nov—The Spanish annual inflation reached 3.5 percent in October based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) published on Tuesday by the Spanish National Institute of Statistics (INE).

The rate, a 0.8 percent increase on a monthly basis, is the highest rate since May 2011, said the INE, confirming the preliminary data published on 30 October. The INE attributed the increase to increasing prices in education, personal care

services, leisure and culture, food and soft drinks, many affected by the sales tax increase from 18 to 21 percent in September.

The price of education rose by 10.4 percent (mainly because the imposition of the 21 percent sales tax rate on school equipment with the exception of textbooks), personal care services rose by 2.4 percent, leisure and culture by 2 percent and food and soft drinks by 2.5 percent.

Xinhua



Security officers guard near a damaged paramilitary force's vehicle at the blast site in southwest Pakistan's Quetta on 13 Nov, 2012. At least two people were killed and about nine others injured when a roadside planted bomb hit a paramilitary force's vehicle in Quetta Tuesday afternoon, local media reported.

XINHUA

Putin congratulates Obama in phone call

Russia

MOSCOW, 14 Nov—Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke to Barack Obama by telephone and congratulated him a second time over his victory in the US presidential election, the Kremlin said on Tuesday.

Putin wished Obama success in "forming a new team" and the two leaders "confirmed their interest in the consistent development of bilateral relations in all areas including economic aspects," the Kremlin said in a statement. Putin repeated an invitation to visit Russia and Obama expressed readiness to do so, the statement said.

Putin had sent a Obama a telegram on 7 November, the day after the election, congratulating him on winning "by a big margin" after a tough campaign and saying he hoped Obama would visit Russia next year.

Relations between Moscow and Washington,

badly damaged by Russia's 2008 war with pro-Western Georgia, improved after Obama moved to "reset" ties early in his first term and signed a nuclear arms treaty with then-President Dmitry Medvedev in 2010.

Obama's relationship with Medvedev is seen as warmer than with Putin but the Russian leader made clear he preferred Obama to Mitt Romney, saying in September that the Republican's criticism of Russia was "mistaken" and calling Obama "an honest person who really wants to change much for the better". In a foreign policy decree issued after his inauguration to a six-year term in May, Putin said Moscow wanted to bring cooperation with Washington "to a truly strategic level" but that the United States must treat Russia as an equal and refrain from interfering in its affairs.—Reuters

SCO ministerial meeting on economy, trade held in Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK, 14 Nov—The 11th Ministerial Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on economy and trade was held here on Tuesday, with the objective of advancing multilateral trade and expanding economic cooperation within the regional bloc.

Participants to the meeting, including SCO Secretary General Muratbek Imanaliev, as well as delegations from the bloc's member states, discussed a wide range of issues and agreed to a draft list of actions for further development within the SCO framework for 2012-2016, which will be submitted for approval of the next Council of Heads of Government of the SCO

Member States, which will convene in December 2012 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

The SCO, which was founded in Shanghai in 2001, currently has six full members, including China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization is and will continue to be the real centre of the mutual integration, said Kyrgyz economy and trade minister Temir Sariyev in an interview after the meeting on Tuesday. According to him, the trade volume of Kyrgyzstan with the SCO member countries went up by 30 percent in the first eight months of the year, in comparison with the same period last year.

Xinhua

Kenya, France sign 8.4 mln euros agreement on radio, coffee development

NAIROBI, 14 Nov—The Kenyan and the French governments on Tuesday signed an agreement of 8.4 million euros in support of the East African country's digital radio network and coffee development.

Visiting French Minister of Foreign Trade Nicole Bricq told journalists in the Kenyan capital Nairobi that the deal comprises a 7 million euros loan for the provision of a digital radio network for Kenya Wildlife Service and a grant of 1.4 million euros to support the improvement of value addition for local coffee producers.

"Kenya is the first country in sub-Saharan

Africa to receive funding from the new French fund for developing countries and will receive 8.4 million euros to fund various projects," she said after the deal was signed here. Bilateral cooperation entered a new phase when Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga and his French counterpart Michel Rocard signed a political declaration in April 2011, after identifying areas of political partnership between the two nations.

French Ambassador to Kenya Etienne de Poncins has said his country's interest in East Africa and Kenya is increasing after years of passing over the region in

favor of other parts of Africa.

Bricq said there is an interest rate of less than 1 percent annually under the loan agreement and has a grace period of five years. The repayment period is 20 years. "However, 70 percent of the bids will be reserved for French companies," he said. Minister of Finance Njeru Githae said the French government has been instrumental in complementing government efforts in environmental conservation. "The French government has already funded the feasibility study on the northern Kenya Wildlife Conservation Project and thereafter provided a concessional loan amounting to 8 million euros for the project," he said. According to the Ministry of Finance, cumulative Overseas Development Aid from France to Kenya has reached 1.17 billion euros to finance projects in water and sanitation, roads and transport, energy, finance education and agriculture.

"The cordial ties among the two countries are evident from the increased Overseas Development Aid (ODA) we have received from the French government through the France Development Agency (AFD) to finance various programmes and projects in the country," he said.—Xinhua

Australians treated to rare full solar eclipse



Clouds obscure the moon passing in front of the sun as it approaches a full solar eclipse in the northern Australian city of Cairns on 14 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

CAIRNS, (Australia), 14 Nov—A rare full solar eclipse plunged north Queensland into darkness for two minutes early on Wednesday, delighting the thousands of people who had gathered on the Australian state's beaches.

In Cairns, the main city in north Queensland and a gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, cloudy skies and

occasional rain partly obscured the view, but elsewhere viewing conditions were more favourable.

North Queensland's tourism body and NASA provided a live stream of

Tourists look at a cloudy sky as a full solar eclipse begins in the northern Australian city of Cairns on 14 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

the eclipse, which was expected to give a \$75 million (\$78 million) boost to the region's tourism industry with many people travelling from around the country and overseas to catch the best view of the celestial show. Authorities warned spectators to wear safety goggles, noting the sun remains incredibly powerful even when hidden behind the moon.

While north Queens-



land was treated to a full eclipse at around 6.39 am local time (2039 GMT Tuesday), a partial eclipse was visible in other parts of Australia, New Zealand, Chile and Antarctica.

The last full solar eclipse visible from Australia was in 2002, an event that was only visible in the nation's south. The next one, to be visible from Sydney, is not due until 2028.

Reuters

Science



China builds first tower-type solar-thermal power station

BEIJING, 14 Nov — The first tower-type solar-thermal power station in Asia has been built in northwest Beijing, chief of the programme said on Monday.

Wang Zhifeng, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said the station is operating in stable condition, using a steam turbine generator to generate electricity.

"The solar-thermal power station will transform solar energy into heat

energy to generate electricity," said Wang, adding that the six-year programme has helped to promote Chinese solar-thermal power generation technology.

Ma Guangcheng, manager of the power station, said the station will reduce annual emissions of carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide by 2,336 tonnes and 17.5 tonnes, respectively compared with traditional thermal power stations.

Xinhua

AMD hires bank to explore options

NEW YORK/SAN FRANCISCO, 14 Nov—Advanced Micro Devices has hired JPMorgan Chase & Co to explore options, which could include a sale, as the chipmaker struggles to find a role in an industry increasingly focused on mobile devices and away from traditional PCs, according to three sources familiar with the situation.

Sources told Reuters on Tuesday that an outright sale of the company is not the main option, and other choices could include a sale of its portfolio of patents. The company's stock surged 18 percent on the news before ending up 5 percent at \$2.09 on the New York Stock Exchange. The shares slipped further to \$2.07 in extended trade after AMD said it was "not actively pursuing a sale of the company or significant assets at this time."

"AMD's board and management believe that the strategy the company is currently pursuing to drive long-term growth by leveraging AMD's highly-differentiated technology assets is the right approach to enhance shareholder value," spokesman Drew Prairie said in an email to Reuters.

When asked why AMD had hired JPMorgan, Prairie declined to confirm the engagement, saying the company does not comment on its relationship with investment banks.

A JPMorgan spokeswoman declined to comment. One of Silicon Valley's oldest chipmakers, AMD is laying off engineers and some analysts are concerned it may not find new markets for its chips in time to reverse a declining cash reserve. AMD's shares have fallen more than 60

percent this year, giving it a market value of about \$1.4 billion. It also has long-term debt and capital lease obligations of about \$2 billion.

Since the 1980s, AMD has competed with much larger Intel and at times has made inroads with its PC and server chips. But setbacks at AMD limited those gains and AMD now faces new competition from companies designing low-cost and power-efficient chips based on ARM Holdings' technology.

Like Intel, Sunnyvale, California-based AMD was caught flat-footed in recent years with the emergence and fast growth of mobile devices. But while Intel has deep pockets to fund research on new products to catch up, AMD faces declining cash flows and a more modest balance sheet.

Reuters

A new AMD Opteron 6000 series processor is seen on a motherboard during a product launch in Taipei on 14 April, 2010.

REUTERS



Tech

Chinese missile producer unveils drone portfolio brand

ZHUHAI, 14 Nov — China Aerospace Science & Industry Corp (CASIC), a prestigious missile maker, unveiled the parent brand for its drone products and services, "HIWING," on Tuesday.

The brand was launched at the ongoing China International Aviation & Aerospace Exhibition in south China's Zhu-

hai City. CASIC, which already owns a portfolio of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) products, is striving to develop "HIWING" into a comprehensive UAV system with various types of products and services.

The company will now make greater efforts in providing tailor-made UAV solutions, and in developing small- to medium-sized

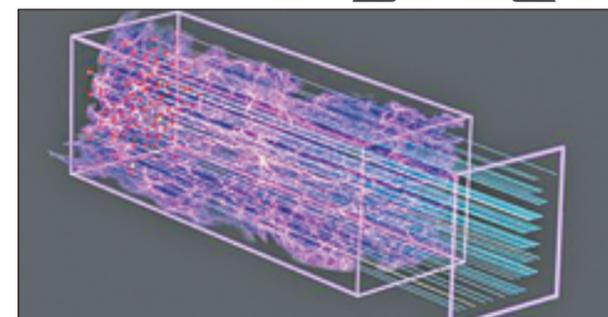
rotary-wing UAVs with payloads from 300 and 600 grams, from 10 to 20 kgs as well as above 30 kgs.

CASIC said it will authorize its Third Academy to conduct UAV research and production, aiming to lift its UAV annual gross output to 400 million yuan (63.6 million US dollars) by the end of 2015.

Xinhua

First map produced of universe 11 billion years ago

Science



An illustration showing how SDSS-III was able to measure the distant universe. Light rays from distant quasars (dots at left) are partially absorbed as they pass through clouds of intergalactic hydrogen gas (centre).—REUTERS

its adolescence... just before it underwent a growth spurt," said Mat Pieri at the University of Portsmouth in Britain, one of the authors of the study. Little is known about dark energy, and its counterpart dark matter, but astronomers argue the force must exist to account for the speed at which the universe is expanding.

Together, dark energy and dark matter are believed to make up about 96 percent of the universe. The new

study supports the theory that dark energy was somehow created as the universe expanded, by detailing a period when gravity was winning the tussle and slowing the expansion. "If we think of the universe as a roller coaster, then today we are rushing downhill, gaining speed as we go," said Pieri. "Our new measurement tells us about the time when the universe was climbing the hill — still being slowed by gravity."—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH



A man lights a cigarette at a cafe in Hanoi on 12 Nov, 2012. Global health officials agreed a deal on Monday to fight smuggling of tobacco products, a trade which robs governments of more than \$40 billion in revenue each year and undercuts efforts to reduce smoking. REUTERS

Global deal agreed to fight tobacco

Health

smuggling

SEOUL, 14 Nov — Global health officials agreed a deal on Monday to fight smuggling of tobacco products, a trade which robs governments of more than \$40 billion in revenue each year and undercuts efforts to reduce smoking. The measures include making it mandatory for member governments to license manufacturers and for tobacco packaging to be marked so the products can be tracked.

The agreement came at a meeting of the 176 member states to the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in the South Korean capital Seoul and follows more than five years of negotiations.

"The protocol gives the world an orderly, rules-based instrument for countering and eventually eliminating a very sophisticated international criminal activity," WHO Director General Margaret Chan told the conference.

New Zealand scientists find technique to foil dairy product imitators

Health

WELLINGTON, 14 Nov — New Zealand scientists said on Tuesday they were developing a method to prove infant formula and other dairy foods labeled as New Zealand produce were the genuine article, in a move to fight counterfeit products in overseas markets.

Scientists at the University of Otago and the government's Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS Science) said they had completed preliminary work to identify the geographical origins of milk powder. The scientists identified a distinctive natural isotope—or hydrogen atom—signature in New Zealand's rainfall that passed through pasture and into milk products.

Troy Baisden of GNS Science said scientists had made progress in measuring hydrogen isotopes in rainfall and biological materials,

Chan told the conference. "Illicit trade is bad for health because it circumvents measures like taxes and price increases that are known to reduce demand."

Roughly one in 10 cigarettes, or 600 billion, are smuggled each year by organized gangs, experts say. A study by the independent non-profit International Tax and Investment Centre based in Washington said approximately 11 percent of the world cigarette market is illicit, resulting in annual loss in government revenue of more than \$40 billion.

"There is evidence that the proceeds of the illicit trade in tobacco products funds both international criminal organizations." A network of civil society groups, the Framework Convention Alliance, called to pact a major step in curbing the illegal trade in tobacco products.

The illicit trade in tobacco feeds the worldwide tobacco

epidemic by flooding markets with cheap products and keeping tobacco taxes low," it said.

However, some countries where major tobacco companies are based, notably the United States, will not be subject to the anti-smuggling agreement because they have not ratified the original pact. Industry giants Philip Morris International and British American Tobacco have previously said they would back a pact with effective measures against illicit trade.—Reuters

Health

LONDON, 14 Nov — A group of experts calling for a global treaty to stop the lethal trade in fake medicines has been barred from attending a World Health Organization meeting, highlighting deep divisions that are blocking progress on the subject. Leading academics and health professionals hoped to provoke debate on the need for a new international law to prevent falsified and substandard drugs reaching the market with a paper published in the *British Medical Journal* on Wednesday.

Their article, which sets out a clear case for a fake drugs treaty similar to existing ones

OPEC oil price at lowest level in four months

VIENNA, 14 Nov — Monthly average prices of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) dropped to 105.47 US dollars per barrel in the past month, the Vienna-based cartel said on Tuesday.

It was the second consecutive monthly decline and also the lowest Monthly OPEC Basket Price in four months.

The drop was considered to be impacted by a forecast of weak global oil demand due to the decline of short-term world economic growth.

The Conference Board, a research group

Verizon Wireless to pay \$8.5 billion dividend to its owners

NEW YORK, 14 Nov — Verizon Wireless said on Monday that its board agreed to pay a total dividend of \$8.5 billion to its two parent companies, Verizon Communications (VZ.N) and Vodafone Group Plc (VOD.L). The announcement follows months of investor speculation as to whether Verizon Wireless would pay a dividend this year.

Verizon Communications, which owns 55 percent of Verizon Wireless and is dependent on wireless operations for growth, could put the cash toward its capital spending, debt interest or its own shareholder dividends, Barclays analyst James Ratcliffe said. "It's driven primarily by the cash needs of Verizon Communications," said Ratcliffe, who had expected a distribution in the range of \$10 billion to \$12 billion.

Verizon declined to comment on the size of the pay-out or how it plans to use the cash. The pay-

out is down from the \$10 billion dividend that Verizon Wireless announced in July 2011 and paid in January 2012. In the past, the dividend had been a bone of contention for Vodafone shareholders, anxious to get a return on their ownership in the top US wireless service. The dividend had been suspended from 2005 through 2010 while Verizon Wireless focused on paying down debt.

Verizon Wireless said the distributions would be

paid in one or more tranches, with each tranche paid in proportion to the two owners' partnership interests. The announcement came the day before Vodafone was due to report its half-year results. The dividends are due to be paid on or before 31 December, Verizon Wireless said. Vodafone's US shares (VOD.O) edged higher in late trade after closing at \$26.39 on Nasdaq. Verizon shares rose to \$42.62 after closing at \$42.56 on the New York Stock Exchange.—Reuters



A Verizon logo is seen during the International CTIA WIRELESS Conference & Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana on 9 May, 2012. — REUTERS

Row flares over global fight against fake medicine

on money laundering and human trafficking, comes a week before 100 states hold the first meeting of its kind to discuss the problem in Buenos Aires. But lead author Amir Attaran of the University of Ottawa said he was told on Monday by the World Health Organization (WHO) that he and other non-governmental representatives could not attend, following an objection by India.

A WHO spokeswoman declined to comment on the details of particular invitations but said it was up to member states to determine who was permitted to attend. Indian officials, whose government

is wary of multinational drug firms using the issue to curb competition, were not immediately available for comment. Attaran called it a "scandal" that only government officials would be at the meeting in Argentina to discuss strategy.

The clash exposes distrust among governments, the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare campaigners about how to tackle fake and dangerous medicines, which are a growing problem in both poor countries and rich. Risks include ineffective material packaged as medication and real drugs made in poor conditions.—Reuters

Health

Hospitals criticized for illegal stem cell practices

BEIJING, 14 Nov — The Ministry of Health on Tuesday published a national circular to criticize two hospitals in northeast China's Jilin Province for illegal medical practices related to stem cells.

The practices included illegal advertisement, employment of unregistered medical workers, disorderly management and using illegitimate names of medical institutes.

Local health offices have revoked the license of one of the hospitals and ordered the other to suspend operation for rectification. The legal administrators of the two hospitals were also criticized in a notice within the province.

The ministry said that flaws still exist in medical institutes and clinical research in stem cells needs further improvement.

It also urged health offices at all levels to supervise hospital management more closely and deal with illegal medical practices in a timely manner.

Xinhua

Business

headquartered in New York, on Tuesday issued its latest report projecting that the world economy would stand at a slow 3.2 percent for 2012, and slow further to 3.0 percent in 2013.

Growth in developing

and emerging economies, which are considered to be influential oil consumers, was projected to drop from 5.5 percent in 2012 to 4.7 percent in 2013. — Xinhua



FDA find bugs, bird at affiliate of meningitis pharmacy

NEW YORK, 14 Nov—US health inspectors found bugs, a flying bird and other unsterile conditions at Ameridose LLC, an affiliate of the Massachusetts compounding pharmacy at the heart of the deadly meningitis outbreak.

Westborough, Massachusetts-based Ameridose was closed on 10 October to allow state and federal investigators to inspect its facilities. On Monday the US Food and Drug Administration released the results of its investigation. The agency's report details a list of quality control failures at Ameridose, including a failure to test the potency of its products, a failure to properly classify patient complaints and the use of "vague, canned language" when describing negative patient reactions to its drugs.

The company, an affiliate of the New England Compounding Centre, said it is in the process of preparing a full response to the FDA.

"Ameridose's history shows clearly that we have not had any instance of contaminated products over the course of the past six years, which covers the



A sign for pharmaceutical compounding company New England Compounding Center (NECC), a producer of the steroid methylprednisolone acetate, is seen in Framingham, Massachusetts on 8 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

manufacture and shipment of 70 million units of product," the company said in a statement. "Ameridose is committed to addressing all observations in order to enhance our existing systems."

The investigation of Ameridose follows the closure of the NECC, which distributed thousands of vials of a steroid linked to an outbreak of fungal meningitis that has hit 19 states and claimed 32 lives.

Inspectors found that Ameridose failed to investigate customer

complaints related to drug potency, under-filled products and syringe volumes. It also failed to classify "patient response" complaints as "adverse events." Several such complaints referred to the drug oxytocin, used to induce labor in childbirth. One referred to "fetal distress and hyper stimulated uterus." Another customer called to report an increase in post-partum hemorrhaging. Another reported that a patient had shortness of breath and that "the throat was closing."—Reuters

China

BEIJING, 14 Nov—The European Union (EU) has been dumping toluene diisocyanate (TDI) into the Chinese market, China's Ministry of Commerce said on Tuesday. An eight-month investigation found imported TDI from the

EU was as much as 37.7 percent below normal prices and that such dumping has hurting domestic producers, the ministry said in a preliminary ruling.

Importers of such products are required to pay anti-dumping deposits

to China's customs authorities.

The deposits, taking effect from Tuesday, will be charged according to the dumping margins of different producers, according to the ruling.

In March, the ministry launched an anti-dumping

UK lawmakers slam Starbucks, Amazon and Google on tax

LONDON, 14 Nov—UK lawmakers criticized executives of Starbucks, Google and Amazon on Monday for not paying more tax in Britain, and Amazon said it had received a \$252 million demand for back taxes from France. Britain's Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which is charged with monitoring government financial affairs, invited the companies to give evidence amid mounting public and political concern about tax avoidance by big international companies.

Britain and Germany last week announced plans to push the Group of 20 economic powers to make multinational companies pay their "fair share" of taxes following reports of large firms exploiting loopholes to avoid taxes.

Amazon received a \$252 million back tax claim from the French tax authority in September, related to its practice of channeling European sales through Luxembourg. The company said it was fighting the claim, referred to by an Amazon official at the hearing.

Members of Parliament (MPs) on the committee quizzed Starbucks Chief

Financial Officer Troy Alstead about how the group's UK unit managed to report 13 years of losses.

"You're either running the business badly, or there's some fiddle going on," Austin Mitchell MP said.

Starbucks UK has an agreement to remit 6

percent of its turnover to the Dutch unit—its regional headquarters—in respect to the use of the Starbucks brand.

Alstead also told the committee that Starbucks's Swiss coffee trading unit charged group companies a 20 percent mark-up on coffee beans. A company spokeswoman said the Lausanne-based unit bought 428 million pounds of coffee beans for an average \$2.38 per pound in 2011, suggesting a total coffee bill of over \$1 billion and income of more than \$200 million

farmer support centers and cooperatives in coffee-growing countries to ensure coffee is sourced ethically, although she would not say how much was spent on this.

Amazon's main UK unit paid less than 1 million pounds in income tax last year. Amazon avoids UK taxes by reporting European sales through a Luxembourg-based unit. This structure allowed it to pay a tax rate of 11 percent on foreign profits last year—less than half the average corporate income tax rate in its major markets.



St Paul's Cathedral is pictured behind signage for a Starbucks coffee shop in London on 8 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

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Reuters

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to China's customs authorities.

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In March, the ministry launched an anti-dumping

probe into the EU-exported TDI, a main raw material of polyurethane products.

TDI is widely used in the industries of rubber surface coating, textile processing, petroleum, mining, automobiles and railway transport.—Xinhua

Vietnam commits to serve as bridge to connect Macedonia, ASEAN

Vietnam

HANOI, 14 Nov—Vietnam is willing to serve as a bridge to connect Macedonia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) markets, said Vietnamese Foreign Minister (FM) Pham Binh Minh.

Minh made the remarks at the meeting with his visiting Macedonian counterpart Nicola Poposki in capital Hanoi on Monday.

In its foreign policy of independence, self-reliance and multilateralism,

Vietnam always attaches importance to strengthen cooperation with traditional friends, including Macedonia, Minh added.

Macedonian FM Nicola Poposki, for his part, spoke highly of

achievements that Vietnam has gained in renovation process, affirming that Macedonia looks forward to expanding and strengthening friendly relation with Vietnam.

Xinhua



Shinzo Abe (R), president of the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party, and LDP Secretary General Shigeru Ishiba attend a meeting of party executives at the Diet building in Tokyo on 13 Nov, 2012.

KYODO NEWS

Panama seizes 1.5 tons of cocaine

PANAMA CITY, 14 Nov—The Panamanian authorities had seized about 1.5 ton of cocaine in several anti-narcotics operations, official sources said on Monday.

The cocaine was seized in residential areas of the capital city and along the northern coast of Colon.

Deputy Director of the Police Department's Judicial Investigation Office (DIJ) Alexis Munoz said the first three operations were conducted in the areas of Altos de Panama, Bella Vista, Pedregal and Balmoral, resulting in the arrest of 14 suspects.

Among the arrested,

eight were foreigners, mostly from South America.

DIJ agents, jointly with an anti-narcotics unit, also confiscated more than 20,000 US dollars, high-caliber firearms and various vehicles, Munoz said.

The seizures in Altos de Panama and Bella Vista were linked with a single

criminal organization while the others appeared to be linked with several drug-trafficking rings, he said.

In June, a global report on the drug trade identified Panama as the country with the third highest number of cocaine seizures, after Colombia and the United States.—Xinhua



An insurance claims adjuster climbs the entrance to a house in the Breezy Point neighbourhood which was left devastated by Hurricane Sandy in the New York borough of Queens on 12 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS



LOCAL NEWS

Super Star football academy opened

YANGON, 14 Nov—Super Star professional private football academy is located at 3383 on Sittoung Road in Ward 61 of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.

The first batch of the course will be opened on 18 November. The players will be trained by seven selected coaches together Brazilian and Thai coaches.

As opening ceremony, the friendly football match was held between former selected from F&R team and Actor Star Team on 11 November. In the match, Actor Star beat the former selected players of F&R team.

Actor Star comprised Zar Ni, Thu Htoo San, Moe



Yan Zun, Min Thway and Min Khant and Captain Zaw Lin Tun of Zeyashwemyay FC. F&R's former selected players were Soe Myat Min, Lwin Oo, Zaw Htaik, Tun Tun Win, Thura Aung and Tun Tun Htet.

The academy was established by U Aung Tun

Oo, U Kyaw Kyaw Win and U Than Win with the sponsorship of KBZ Bank.

U Aung Tun Oo presented gifts to both teams. The academy will contact outstanding players of the academy with the football clubs of MNL 2013.

Myanma Alinn

Press conference on earthquake in Mandalay Region held

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—A press conference on loss and damages in 6.8 Richter Scale earthquake that jolt in Mandalay Region, rehabilitation works and health care services was held at the hall of the National Theatre in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay on 12 November evening.

An official said, "Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union ministers,

region chief ministers and region ministers toured the earthquake-hit regions and fulfilled the requirements for relief and rehabilitation works."

"Mandalay Region government has already formed the relief and rehabilitation work committees so as to provide assistance to the victims. The list of loss and damages are being collected

systematically. The region government is applying various ways and means for relieving the victims in loss and damages in the earthquake," he continued.

"Media are to present correct news to the people to fade out their worry. Anyone may contact the region government for further information," he said.

Myanma Alinn

Condor launches Yangon-Frankfurt flight

YANGON, 14 Nov—A ceremony to launch the maiden flight of Condor airlines that will fly from Yangon of Myanmar and Frankfurt of Germany was held at Yangon International Airport at 4 pm on 7 November.

Condor Airlines started its flights in 1956.

The airlines that now operates 35 airplane for its flights will use Boring 767-300 ER on the Yangon-Frankfurt route.

The flight will depart Frankfurt of Germany at

12.40 pm local standard time on Tuesday and arrive in Yangon at 4.25 am on Wednesday.

Likewise, the airplane will take off Yangon at 5.35 am the same day and arrive in Frankfurt at 4.40 pm.

Myanma Alinn



UNDISCIPLINED ACT: A new saloon car stopped over at corner of Anawrahta and Maha Bandoola Park streets blocked the road on 10 November evening. The saloon car can be seen without any number plate.

MYANMA ALINN

Myanmar to play with Okarama Club of J-League-2 as final preparations

YANGON, 14 Nov—The ASEAN Suzuki Cup will be organized as the final stage in the near future.

The contending teams are making preparations for the final stage. Myanmar National Team will play against Okarama Club of J-League-2 as the final preparations.

At 5.30 pm on 15 and 17 November, Myanmar team and Okarama Club will play the tune-up match at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna.

The selected Myanmar team is under control of Coach Pak Sung-Hua, Coach U Tin Myint Aung, Assistant Coach U Zaw Win Tun, Physical Trainer Hae John and Goal Coach U Myo Chit.

Myanmar team is constituted with Goalkeeper Thiha Sithu, Kyaw Zin Phyo,

Pyae Phyo Aung, Defenders Thein Than Win, Pyae Phyo Aung, Zaw Zaw Oo, Aung Zaw, Thet Naing, Khin Maung Tun, Moe Win, Aung Hein Kyaw, Zaw Min Tun, Midfielders: Aung Moe, Paing Soe, Naing Lin Oo, Phyo Ko Ko Thein, Khin Maung Lwin, David Dun, Kyi Lin, Yan Aung Kyaw, Forwards: Aung Myint Tun, Mai Aik Naing, Kaung Sithu, Yan Paing and Soe Kyaw Kyaw.

Myanmar team postponed its training after the qualifier and resumed its training session on 1 November.

In the qualifier, Myanmar beat Brunei 1-0, Timor 2-1, Cambodia 3-0 and played a goalless draw with Laos and secured the first position in the qualifier.

Okarama Club is one of

the clubs from J-League-2 and had experiences in playing against Myanmar team. Before the Suzuki Cup qualifier, Myanmar played a tune-up match with Japanese clubs. At that time, Okarama trounced Myanmar 6-0.

After the coming tune-up match, players of Myanmar team will be finally selected.

Myanma Alinn



Confiscated vehicles handed over to CESD

MAWLAMYINE, 14 Nov—A total of 13 luxury cars and 19 motorcycles confiscated at various courts in Mawlamyine Township of Mon State have been handed over to Central Equipment and Statistics Department.

The vehicles were confiscated by Mon State Police Force and

Mawlamyine Township Police Force at the checkpoints of the township in 2010-2011. After taking action against offenders, the vehicles were confiscated.

Likewise, one luxury car and 82 motorcycles were handed over in Ye Township, 14 motorcycles in Thanbyuzayat Township, three luxury cars and 21

motorcycles in Mudon Township, four motorcycles in Chaungzon Township, six luxury cars and 13 motorcycles in Kyaikmaraw Township.

Moreover, a plan is under way to hand over the confiscated vehicles in Thaton District to the department.

Myanma Alinn

MYANMAR-JAPAN PHOTO SHOW: Tourists enthusiastically view works of Myanmar-Japan Friendship Photo Show on Shwedagon Pagoda Sasana affairs at Chanthagyi Prayer Hall of Shwedagon Pagoda from 3 to 18 November.
MYANMA ALINN



Building construction to abide by rules of YCDC

YANGON, 14 Nov—Construction of buildings and major repairing works

are to take permission in the municipal area of Yangon City Development Committee. If not, the buildings without permission are to be dissolved and action will be taken in line with the Yangon City Development Committee Law.

Those wishing to construct the building are to apply the Yangon City Development Committee. The committee will inform the applicants whether permission will be given to

the applicants or not within two months.

The construction process for the building must be in line with the regulations of the committee and it must have to accept the inspection of the engineers of the committee.

In the past, the buildings that were not in line with the disciplines were fined.

At present, the buildings under construction and completed buildings without permissions will be abolished in line with the new rules.

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 15 November, 2012

Smart cops needed

Myanmar Police Force hit Facebook about a week ago as the latest and rare sign the Myanmar's major law enforcement mechanism is making its ways to deal with its duties different. Established since 1964 under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the police force has done things that deserve both praises and blames as it came across a long history.

It is a consensus in the emerging democratic society that the rule of law is a prerequisite for development and for promotion of democracy. Despite, we've turned a blind eye on the organization that safeguards the rule of law. We will not be able to bring the order without cops. No politician or no media or no army or no judge is not directly responsible to enforce the laws, but the police force is whereas the concentration of all stakeholders on the efforts is a must.

After decades of notorious corruption, the organization would find itself hard to root it out. If a mechanism which is responsible to crack down the corruption continues to take bribes, it is sure that our country will continue to stuck in and suffer from the vicious cycle of the corruption. While tackling the corruption, we also need to pay attention on improving living standards of the police officers. The low-paid officers tend more to solicit bribes. The fact of the low salary should no more legitimate professional misconducts and bar severe actions.

The mind-set of the police officers, like other civil servants, must be changed. The sense of accountability should be inculcated firmly in them. They may have to report to a superior officer but the interests they safeguard must solely be of the people.

Meanwhile, we also need to improve the capacity of our cops, providing them adequate trainings and facilities. Higher quality of the current squads will also bring in more talented recruits.

From very now on, it should start to practice transparency in various levels. In such transition period, it would be hard for the police force to remind its standards and values to each and every member. But we have to do it because we need it right away. Because we urgently need the elite police force for the future of our country.



NATIONAL

Plans to be made for quake-hit victims...

(from page 1)
measures and educative programme.

Next, Secretary of the Committee Deputy Minister for Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe reported on experience and difficulties in relief and resettlement and management and work programme that should be followed in relief and rehabilitation tasks.

Members of the

Committee the deputy ministers explained relief, rehabilitation, preventive measures and educative programme by respective ministries in coordination with Region Government and future programme.

Deputy Minister U Phone Swe explained assistance being provided to the victims and Myanmar Disaster Protection Group's fund and relief and rehabilitation

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint reports on earthquake-caused destruction, reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation works.
MNA



Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye submits reports on outbreak of earthquake, losses and reconstruction of buildings in the region.
MNA

Deputy Minister for SWRR U Phone Swe presents reports on difficulties in relief and resettlement, management and work programme.
MNA



Transition to mechanized farming in Rakhine State to be accelerated

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov — Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin called on townsenders and local farmers in Kyauktaw, Rakhine State, for making efforts for transition from conventional farming to mechanized farming to boost the agricultural output and for participation in regional development, peace and stability to improve the socio economy of the region during the meeting in Kyauktaw on 11 November.

The chief minister viewed harvesting of rice which were planted with the use of good agricultural pattern in the Village of Ponna. He also viewed harvesting of Shwewahtun and Paletwe hybrid rice on

100 acres. He discussed matters on prevalence of peace and stability in the region with representatives from Rakhine State Hluttaw, townsenders and farmers at the MraukU Township General Administration Department the next day.

Afterwards, he visited the relief camp set up at Alodawpyai Monastery in MyaukU and presented aids to the refugees.—MNA

U Khin Nyo-Daw Tin Hlaing and family of Kamayut Township donated K 200,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Secretary U Nyi Nyi Lwin.—NLM

tasks. After that, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham urged the officials to fulfill the necessary requirements to the victims so as to return to their normal life and the Vice-Chairmen of Work Committee, the Secretary and members to make coordination in carrying out rehabilitation tasks.

It was attended by Chairman of the Work Committee for Rehabilitation of earthquake-affected regions Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-Chairmen Sagaing Region Chief Minister and Mandalay Region Chief Minister, the Secretary and members of the deputy ministers.—MNA

CICA to make investment in Myanmar's rail transportation sector

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov — Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Zeyar Aung met a delegation led by Chairman of China International Contractors Association Mr Diao Chunhe of the People's Republic of China, at his

office this afternoon. At the call, they had a discussion on allowance to Chinese companies to observe for making investment in rail roads, bridges, industries and construction works in the projects of Myanmar Railways.—MNA

I & P Ministry to take census next year on trial

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov — Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi stressed the need for active cooperation and unity of the employees of the ministry to achieve success in taking test census in 2013.

At the meeting with employees of the ministry in Mon State at the Mon State Immigration and National Registration Department in Mawlamyine on 10 November, the Union minister also called on

them for digesting the rules and regulations, learning languages and IT and avoiding corruptions.

The Ministry will take the national census in 2014. The ministry has achieved success in its Moepwint Project for issuing household certificates and Citizenship Scrutiny Card to the people.

The ministry is also working hard to lay down a visa policy and PR system for foreigners in Myanmar.
MNA



NATIONAL



Union Foreign Minister accepts Consular Commissions of newly-accredited Honorary Consuls

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—U Htet Nyi, the newly-accredited Honorary Consul of Norway to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and U Ye Htut (a) U Ye Myint, the newly-accredited Honorary Consul of Denmark to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented their Consular Commissions U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the Union Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, here, today separately.

MNA

Honorary Consul of Denmark U Ye Htut (a) U Ye Myint presents Consular Commission to Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin.

MNA

Honorary Consul of Norway U Htet Nyi presents Consular Commission to Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin.

MNA



SWRR Union Minister, Mandalay Region Chief Minister assist in rescue and rehabilitation tasks in quake-stricken regions

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—The government, people and the Tatmadaw as usual are cooperating to undertake rescue and rehabilitation works after the quick has hit central Myanmar. Yesterday, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Myint Soe of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Nyo Saw, and personnel assistance in rescue and rehabilitation works in Singu and Thabeikkyin Townships.

They viewed the damages at Singu Township Basic Education high School, primary school in No. 2 Ward and Shwegugyi Labha Muni Nagapek Zedi in Singu Township.

The Union Minister and party also viewed damages at township police station, 12000-gallon-capacity water tank at water distribution station of the township. They encouraged military mobile medical teams and health staff providing treatment to quake victims at Singu People's Hospital and presented cash assistance to patients.

Departmental person-nel, townselders and members of social organizations comforted victims. The Union minister provided cash donated by the

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement; Lt-Gen Myint Soe and the commander, 500 bags of cement, cash, blankets, sweaters and soaps donated by the Tatmadaw; donors, cash assistance for families of deceased persons.

The Union Minister and party then viewed damaged school buildings

treatments in the relief camps of Township People's Hospital and Kyihtaupauk station hospital.

On arrival at Thabeikkyin, they oversaw transportation of relief aids and comforted the victims.

The Union Minister, Lt-Gen Myint Soe, the commander, Pyin Oo Lwin townselders and District

Union Solidarity and Development Party donated sweaters, cement bags and cash to the victims.

The Union Minister and party also visited damaged schools, Aungmyintha monastery, Auksekkyia monastery, department offices and houses in Thabeikkyin Township.

MNA



Union Minister for SWRR Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Myint Soe of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office comfort a quake victim.—MNA

of Nweyon village basic education middle school and comforted the local people.

They then viewed victims receiving treatment from Tatmadaw mobile medical team at Kyihtaupauk station hospital and Chaunggyi village in Singu and comforted them.

A total of 160 patients are receiving medical

2012 World Diabetes Day held

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—Jointly organized by the Ministry of Health and WHO, 2012 World Diabetes Day in line with the theme "Protect Our Future" was held in conjunction with the note of giving remarkable knowledge on diabetes by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint at the hall of the ministry, here, this

morning. Resident Representative of WHO Dr HS B Tennakoon extended greetings.

As honouring World Diabetes Day, the specialists gave medical care to the patients of diabetes in Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bedded) from the morning to the afternoon.

MNA

Newly-assigned faculty members should have optimistic view

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—On his key note on delivering speech to newly-assigned pro-rectors and principals of universities and colleges held at the hall of the Ministry of Education this morning, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye stressed them to nurture the students to become the qualified ones in their respective fields in accordance with international

standard. He's saying that the newly-assigned pro-rectors and principals should have not only optimistic points of view but also to keep the value of good morale and characters.

Deputy Ministers Dr Ba Shwe and U Aye Kyu held discussion with the newly-assigned pro-rectors and principals to do their utmost in education sector.

MNA

Displaced families provided with cash and kind

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov — Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai accompanied by state ministers spoke words of encouragements in meeting with families at Myoma Church and Khatcho village monastery on 10 November. The chief minister handed over cash and kind donated by the Kachin State government, Dhammaduta Dr. Ashin Çhekinda, Kyalsin Lin company, Kaungkin Lwin company and U Khin Maung Aye to responsible persons and paid respects to the Sayadaw of Khatcho monastery. At Sitapu Sutngaitaung Church, Tatkon Church and Janmaingkaung Church, the chief minister comforted families who moved there due to the security situation, and presented cash and kind to them. While meeting with the principal and students

of School for the Blind in Janmaingkaung ward, the Chief Minister presented 30 bags of rice, 100 blankets and K 1 million for them.

Next, he presented cash and kind to displaced families at Zeelun Church in Lekon ward and Wuntho monastery in Shansu North ward. Responsible persons accepted K 400,000 donated by the Chief Minister and family, K 6,190,000 donated by the Kachin State government for 1238 displaced households from 24 relief camps in Myitkyina, rice, edible oil, salt and blankets by Dhammaduta Dr. Ashin Çhekinda and other religious associations.

The Chief Minister and party paid homage to the Presiding Sayadaw of Wuntho Monastery and presented offertories to the Sayadaw. — MNA

NATIONAL

ROK to provide assistance to rural cooperative societies



Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan meets Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Mr Kun Goh and party at Tawwin Nay Pyi Taw Hotel.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan met with a delegation led by Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Mr Kun Goh, at Tawwin Nay Pyi Taw Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone this afternoon.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on Myanmar reform processes,

rural development and poverty alleviation programme, providing cash assistance to micro credit enterprises by forming rural cooperative societies in every village for socio-economic development of rural people, teaching aids to vocational training courses in Cooperatives University/ College/training schools,

extended construction of new village projects being implemented in Yangon Region across the country, transformation of conventional methods to mechanized farming and machines, cash and technical assistance for transforming rural cooperative societies into agro-based cooperative SMEs.—MNA

Investment of agricultural development sector discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing together with members of Agriculturists Association of ASEAN Countries viewed farmer's educative plantation in Pobbathiri Township, here, this morning.

They also had a check in the groundnut plantation

and soya bean plantation in Koywa Thabyegon, harvesting of groundnut plantation in the irrigated area of Ngalaik Dam in Tegyigon Village of Zabuthiri Township, Chaing village and harvesting of 440-acre Palethwe hybrid plantation in Pynmana Township and 100-acre Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation in Kyarku

village in Dekkhinathiri Township.

At the hall of the ministry, the Union Minister discussed the investment for agricultural development sector with Deputy Ministers U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw, the directors-general and the agriculturists association of ASEAN countries.

MNA

Donations invited for repair of damaged pagodas, religious edifices, schools and houses in quake

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—A strong earthquake at 7 hours 42 minutes and 37 seconds on 11 November, 2012, devastated religious edifices, schools, houses, offices and construction sites and caused casualties in Sagaing, Shwebo, Kyaukmyaung, KhinU, Mandalay, Amarapura, Singu, Kyaukse and Thabeikkyin Townships in Sagaing and Mandalay Regions. The Union government is taking rescue and rehabilitation measures at full throttle. Donations of individuals or civil societies are welcomed as the government handles responsibility to repair the damaged pagodas and religious edifices.

Similarly, the government will accept donations from wellwishers, civil societies, NGOs and INGOs at home and abroad to repair the damaged schools, hospitals, dispensaries, houses and public buildings. The prospective contributors may contact the following numbers:-

- (a) **Nay Pyi Taw**
- Ministry of Culture
Contact Person
U Kyaw Oo Lwin (Director-General)
Ph: 067-408038/0949202141
Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department
 - Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Contact Person
U Soe Aung (Director-General)
Ph: 067-404050/098600025
U Win Htut Oo (Director – Admin)
Ph: 067-404316/0943120863
Relief and Resettlement Department
 - Ministry of Religious Affairs
Contact Person
U Khin Maung Win (Director)
Ph: 067-406001/067-406013
- (b) **Yangon Region**
- Relief and Resettlement Department
Contact Person
U Thein Htay Aung (Deputy Director)
Head of Yangon Region Department, Kyaikwaing Pagoda street, Yangon.
Ph: 01-661812/01-522726/098601164
 - Ministry of Religious Affairs
Contact Person
U Soe Min Tun (Director)
Ph: 01-661275/09-5001475
- (c) **Sagaing Region**
- Sagaing Region Government
Contact Person
U Min Lwin (Deputy Director)
Ph: 071-24170/092044695
- (d) **Mandalay Region**
- Mandalay Region Government
Contact Persons
U Kyaw Myint (Director)
Ph: 02-36913/098500909
U Aye Lwin (Assistant Director)
Ph: 02-36922/0947130130
 - Ministry of Religious Affairs
Contact Person
U Kyaw Sein Win (Director)
Ph: 02-61113/092000732

WORLD

UN refugee agency faces security obstacles in bringing aid to Syria

NEW YORK, 14 Nov — The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) reported on Tuesday that security problems are impeding efforts to provide aid in Syria, UN spokesman Martin Nesirky said here.

Speaking to reporters at a daily press briefing, Nesirky, the spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said: "Unfortunately, recent deliveries have been very difficult."

"Last week, humanitarian operations were disrupted on at least two days in

Damascus.

Similar difficulties were experienced by staff working in Aleppo," he said.

However, the refugee agency "is making progress in its major effort to provide aid to up to half a million people by the end of this year, despite recent disruptions to operations due to security problems," said Nesirky.

He added that so far, the agency has provided family aid packages to nearly 300,000 people.

UNHCR has approximately 350 staff working

in Syria, at three locations in Aleppo, Damascus and Hassakeh, while 2.5 million Syrians are estimated to need assistance.

"Lack of security over the past few weeks has also resulted in loss of aid supplies," said Nesirky, citing an incident where 13,000 blankets were burned in a Syrian Arab Red Crescent warehouse, after being hit by a shell. Syria has been embroiled in a bitter violence for over 19 months now, that shows no signs of dissipating.—Xinhua

Some 3,500 planted mines destroyed in Algeria in October

ALGIERS, 14 Nov—October as part of a wide Algerian army destroyed 3,490 mines dating back to the French colonial era in

October as part of a wide scale operation aiming to remove mines along its eastern and western border,

official APS news agency reported on Tuesday.

Citing an official source, APS said this mine-removal operation discovered and destroyed 326 antipersonnel mines and 827 anti-group mines in the 2nd military zone.

In the 3rd military zone, 3 antipersonnel mines were destroyed, and that in the 5th military zone, 2,246 antipersonnel mines, 83 anti-group mines and 5 trip flares were destroyed. In 2007, Paris gave Algiers a map marking the locations where the French occupation forces had planted millions of mines along Algeria's eastern and western border from 1956 to 1959.0

Xinhua



An Israeli tank manoeuvres close to the ceasefire line between Israel and Syria on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on 13 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

REGIONAL

Cambodia ready to host 21st ASEAN Summit

PHNOM PENH, 14 Nov— Cambodia is ready to host the 21st ASEAN Summit and related Summits later this week, government spokesman and Information Minister Khieu Kanharith said on Tuesday.

The country will host the bloc's annual event from 18 to 20 Nov at the Peace Palace in the capital of Cambodia.

The Summits will be participated in by all ASEAN leaders and ASEAN's dialogue country leaders including newly re-elected US President Barack Obama, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard and New Zealand Prime Minister John Key, the spokesman told reporters.

Besides, there will



Cambodia's government spokesman and Information Minister Khieu Kanharith speaks to the reporters in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 13 Nov, 2012. Cambodia is ready to host the 21st ASEAN Summit and related Summits later this week, government spokesman and Information Minister Khieu Kanharith said on Tuesday.—XINHUA

be the participation of the heads of the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization.

"This is a pride for

Cambodia that leaders of powerful countries will come to Cambodia," he said.

To date, some 1,850 reporters including 924 foreign reporters from 241 foreign publications in 40 countries had already registered with the

information ministry to cover the forthcoming event, he said.

To facilitate those reporters in reporting the Summits, the ministry has reserved a space of 3,000 square meters equipped with 300 desktop computers, he said, adding that the 300 Mbps speed internet is connected to those computers.

On the security side, he said over 10,000 Cambodian forces will be deployed to safeguard the Summits. The number does not include the foreign security forces who escort their respective leaders to the Summits.

Founded in 1967, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Xinhua

Mongolia starts judicial reforms Mongolia

ULAN BATOR, 14 Nov— Mongolian leaders announced the beginning of a nationwide judicial reform programme at a conference hosted by the Justice Ministry on Tuesday.

Mongolian President Tsakhia Elbegdorj stressed the importance of judicial reforms and a fair legal environment, saying reforms should start from the justice organs. Mongolia had resources, but lacked a good legal environment, the president

said. Prime Minister Norov Altanhuyag noted that his country had carried out several ineffective reforms in the past, adding that the new reform policies were designed for the interests of the Mongolian people only.

The conference was attended by more than 800 officials from the Justice Ministry, police headquarters, border administration and other departments.

Xinhua

Indonesian energy provider upbeat about lucrative power business Indonesia

PANGKALAN BUN, 14 Nov— Given the government's grand plan to build up power plants at mega capacity of 20,000 megawatt (MW) in two phases until 2018, Indonesian energy providers are keen to see it as lucrative business as they already had captive market and resources to fuel their business.

Embracing private power provider firms, the Indonesian government has set ambitious plans to build new power plants in two phases, with 10,000 MW of total capacity drafted for each phase.

All of those efforts were aimed at complying with power needs growth at home for households and industrial purposes across the country, estimated to have reached 20 percent per year.

The first phase of massive power plant

projects, started in 2009, was dominated by construction of coal-fired power plants across the country. A senior official at Indonesia's power utility firm PLN said that as of the middle of this year, 45 percent of the first phase projects or an equivalent to 4,450 MW, had been accomplished and a total of 10,000 MW is expected to fully operate in 2015.

The construction of coal-fired power plants are expected to reduce the operation of costly fuel-fired power plants run by PLN. PLN expected the operation of fuel-fired power plant would account for 1 percent of overall power plants running in the country by 2015. Currently, the total capacity of power plants operating in Indonesia stood at around 32,000 MW.

Xinhua

Bangladesh, Belarus vow to strengthen cooperation

Bangladesh

DHAKA, 14 Nov— Bangladesh and Belarus on Tuesday issued a joint Press statement following prime minister Mikhail Myasnikovich's visit to Dhaka, pledging to upgrade their bilateral ties and enhance cooperation in various areas.

Myasnikovich, who arrived here Sunday on the second leg of his three-nation tour, held official talks with Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Monday on wide ranging issues of mutual interest.

Following the talks, seven agreements and five memorandum of understandings were signed on cooperation in industry, agriculture, science and technology, education, etc.

Both leaders noted that despite bilateral contacts over the past two decades since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the potential of cooperation in a number of critical areas such as agriculture, industrial manufacturing, science and technology, higher education, skills development remains untapped, said the statement.

It was understood that a comprehensive legal basis would promote the dynamic development of relations between the two countries, said the statement.

According to the statement, both sides agreed that mutually beneficial cooperative endeavors could be shaped up through greater and

regular interaction among the various stakeholders namely governments, civil society, private sector.

The two leaders expressed the hope that such wider collaboration could contribute to the strengthening of the political aspects of overall bilateral relations, it said.

The two sides agreed to focus on engagements between the two countries in deepening knowledge-based collaboration, said the statement, adding Bangladesh particularly welcomed Belarus' offer of collaboration in agro and industrial manufacturing, science-based initiatives, education, particularly scientific and technology based.

Xinhua



An official shows one of the 600 cobras seized by the Thai Customs Department at a press briefing in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13 Nov, 2012. The snakes contained in sacks and plastic containers were to be smuggled to foreign countries, according to authorities.—XINHUA

S Korea's jobless rate falls to 2.8 pct in October

SEOUL, 14 Nov— South Korea's jobless rate fell to 2.8 percent last month due to strong job creation in the manufacturing sector, but job creation for all industries slowed sharply due to a base effect, a government report

showed on Wednesday. The unemployment rate came in at 2.8 percent in October, down 0.1 percentage point from a month earlier, according to Statistics Korea.

From a year before, the rate was down 0.1 percentage point. After peaking at 4.2 percent in February, the jobless rate has trended down to 2.8 percent last month that is nearly at full employment level. The October figure was the lowest this year.

The unemployment rate gauges the percentage of people unemployed who actively sought jobs over the past four weeks to the economically active population, or the sum of people employed and those unemployed.

The number of people unemployed, who failed to land work despite job-hunting efforts, reached 718,000 last month, down

18,000 from a year earlier.

"Reduction in the unemployed was affected by the manufacturing industry-led job creation and Chuseok holiday that fell on the survey period," the statistical agency said in a Press release.

The jobless rate among those aged between 15 and 29 came to 6.9 percent in October, down 0.2 percentage point from a year before.

The rate was down 0.2 percentage point from the previous month. Meanwhile, the total number of people employed reached 25,069,000 in October, up 396,000 from a year earlier. The on-year growth was sharply down from a 685,000 increase for September.

"Job creation was driven by 144,000 workers added to payrolls in the manufacturing sector, but the growth pace slowed due to the base effect of October last year when 501,000

workers were hired," said the statistical agency.

The hiring rate, which gauges the percent of working people to working age population, or those aged 15 and over, came in at 60.1 percent in October, up 0.2 percentage point from a year before. The employment rate is an alternative measure to the jobless rate for assessing labour market conditions.

By industry, the manufacturing sector created 144,000 jobs last month, with the lodging and food service sector employing 81,000 workers.

The science and technology service industry added 72,000 positions, while the health and social welfare industry hired 61,000 workers. The number of those working less than 36 hours per week reached 3,137,000 in October, up 0.7 percent from a year earlier.

Xinhua



People visit the exhibition of "Earliest Photographs of China" at the Chinese Culture Center in Paris, France, on 13 Nov, 2012. The exhibition opened here on Tuesday, displaying daguerreotypes of Chinese people and scenery in the Guangdong region, including 15 daguerreotypes taken by French customs inspector and amateur daguerreotypist Jules Itier in 1844, considered to be the earliest preserved photographs of China.—XINHUA

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Dated: 15 November 2012

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV S THAI VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV S THAI VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SEA NET TRADING
CO. LTD.**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (016)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (016) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



International Energy Agency Executive Director Maria van der Hoeven (C) speaks during a Press conference in London on 12 Nov, 2012.—KYODO NEWS

Azerbaijan, Ukraine sign military action plan

BAKU, 14 Nov—Azerbaijan and Ukraine on Monday signed an action plan on bilateral military cooperation for 2013.

According to a statement from Azerbaijan's defence ministry, the document was signed by Ukrainian Defence Minister Dmitry Salamatin and his Azeri counterpart Safar Abiyev in Baku after broad discussions in the presence of the Ukrainian delegation.

The meeting discussed the development of bilateral relations in various fields. The Azeri defence minister emphasized that cooperation with Ukraine in military and military-industrial sector has increased over the recent years.

The two sides also exchanged views on the military and political situation in the region. Salamatin met with the Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev on Monday. Aliyev expressed his confidence that Salamatin's visit to Azerbaijan will give renewed impetus to the military ties between the two countries. Earlier in March this year, Azeri media said Ukrainian enterprises were interested in creating new tanks on the basis of old Soviet combat vehicles. The Ukrainians put forward several proposals for joint projects with Azerbaijan on producing ordnance for combat vehicles and upgrading engines and transmission.—Xinhua



The fifth session of the Conference to the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control opens in Seoul on 12 Nov, 2012. KYODO NEWS

Hillary Clinton arrives in Australia's Perth for high-level ministerial meetings US

PERTH, 14 Nov—US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrived at Western Australia's capital Perth for an important annual Australia-US Ministerial Consultation (AUSMIN).

Clinton was met at the airport by Australian Foreign Minister Bob Carr,

Defence Minister Stephen Smith, ambassador to the US Kim Beazley and Western Australian Premier Colin Barnett.

Perth is an eerie sight with roads blocked throughout the city and heavy restrictions in place with Perth's international Airport

under massive security and surveillance.

AUSMIN is the highest-level forum for Australia and US consultation on foreign policy, defence and strategic issues. Clinton will meet Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard later on Tuesday.—Xinhua

Three killed, seven injured in bomb attack in southern Sudan

KHARTOUM, 14 Nov—At least three people were killed and seven others injured in a bomb attack by rebels of Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)/northern sector against Kadogli, the capi-

tal city of South Kordofan State of Sudan, Khartoum's Al-Sudani daily reported on Wednesday.

"The SPLM/northern sector randomly fired five rockets at the city Tuesday evening," the paper report-

ed, noting that the Sudanese army intervened in and gained full control of the situation.

On 8 Nov, the SPLM/northern sector targeted a road linking Al-Dalanj and Kadogli towns in South

UN envoy urges parties to move swiftly into serious talks on West Sahara UN

UNITED NATIONS, 14 Nov—The UN secretary-general's personal envoy for Western Sahara, Christopher Ross, on Monday called on all the parties concerned to enter into "real dialogue and compromise to find a solution" to the final status of West Sahara, a UN spokesman told reporters here.

Ross, who is on a visit to North Africa and Europe from 27 October to 15 November, made the appeal after he met in Madrid on Monday with the foreign minister of Spain, Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo, Nesirky said at a daily news briefing here.

"In a statement, the personal envoy said that the conflict over the final status of Western Sahara has gone on for far too long," Nesirky said. "He said that it would

be a serious miscalculation to believe that the status quo will last, since it is now threatened by the rise of extremist, terrorist, and criminal elements in the Sahel region." "Ross said the conflict can be resolved if there is a will to engage in real dialogue and compromise to find a solution that is honourable for all," the spokesman said. "He urged the parties to move swiftly into serious negotiations, and

he asked key members of the international community to use their influence to encourage the parties to do so."

After Madrid, Ross plans to visit the capitals of the other members of the Group of Friends, as well as others, for consultations in the near future, Nesirky said. "He will fly to Paris on Tuesday and will visit Washington, London and Moscow soon."

Xinhua



A staff member of a gas station refuels a car in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 12 Nov, 2012. China will likely cut gasoline and diesel retail prices recently, as crude oil prices have dropped close to the price adjustment threshold, analysts said Saturday. The price cuts could be between 300 yuan (47.62 US dollars) and 350 yuan per tonne.—XINHUA

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Anne Hathaway in “state of deprivation” after filming Les Miserables

LONDON, 14 Nov—Anne Hathaway was in a “state of deprivation” after she had finished filming *Les Miserables*. The actress takes on the role of the tragic Fantine in the big screen version of the hit musical and she admits she was mentally and physically drained when shooting ended because she had given so much of herself.

She said: “I was in such a state of deprivation—physical and emotional. When I got home, I couldn’t react to the chaos

of the world without being overwhelmed. It took me weeks till I felt like myself again. The first time I really threw everything into a part, which was when I did ‘Rachel Getting Married’, there was no one waiting for me when I got back.

This time, Adam (Schulman, her husband) was there. He gets what I do and who I am and supports me in it, and that’s pretty awesome.”

To prepare for the role of Fantine—who is forced into prostitution to pay

for the care of her young daughter, before dying — Anne had to shave all her hair off and lose lots of weight as she didn’t want to rely on props or special effects. She told America’s *Vogue* magazine: “I had to be obsessive about it — the idea was to look near death. Looking back on the whole experience—and I don’t judge it in any way — it was definitely a little nuts. It was definitely a break with reality, but I think that’s who Fantine is anyway.”—PTI

Anne had to shave all her hair off and lose lots of weight as she didn’t want to rely on props or special effects.
PTI



I’m daddy’s little girl: Anushka Sharma

MUMBAI, 14 Nov —Diwali is turning out to be a frenetic one for Anushka Sharma. The leggy lass has been travelling all over the country to promote her film. But she’s happy with the fact that she’ll be getting to spend some time with her family on the festive day. “I think I will end up working on Diwali. But I am very excited about my film and want it to be a huge success,” she said.

So, what are her plans for the festival? “Diwali has always meant spending time with family. My mother will do the traditional Lakshmi Pooja at home. We will decorate the house with lights and diyas. In fact, she’s been single-handedly preparing for the festival. She always buys a bit of gold on Dhanteras and clothes and sweets for our staff and their families. I haven’t shopped as such but will wear a new sari or salwar kameez.”

With Diwali being the festival of indulgence,



On an emotional note, Anushka revealed how she used to wait for her dad to come home every Diwali when she was a kid.—PTI

how will Anushka manage to stick to her diet? “I am blessed with a wonderful metabolism. I don’t put on weight even if I eat the richest of delicacies. I love besan and motichur ka ladoo and cham cham.” On an emotional note, Anushka also revealed how she used to wait for her dad to come home every Diwali when she was a kid.

“I grew up in Bangalore. Dad was in the army and would be away from home for months. For me,

the best Diwalis was when dad was home. I have always been daddy’s little girl. And when he was home I never used to leave him even for a minute,” she said. She also said that she loves Diwali celebrations in Mumbai. “I love seeing lights all around me. Mumbai looks like a lovely bride during Diwali. And it’s great to see people finally taking time off from their hectic lives in this fast-paced city to enjoy some time with dear ones.”—PTI

Rolling Stones add fifth date to anniversary tour

LONDON, 14 Nov — The Rolling Stones have added a fifth date to their 50th anniversary tour later this year, the band announced on its website. In between two shows at London’s O2 Arena starting on 25 November and two more at the Prudential Centre in Newark, NJ opening on 13 December the veteran quartet will play the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, NY on 8 December.

Tickets for the fifth concert go on sale on Monday, 19 November. The first four gigs quickly sold out despite complaints from many fans over high ticket prices ranging between around 95 pounds (\$150) and 950 pounds

for a VIP seat in London. On auction website eBay, a pair of ticket with a face value of 406 pounds is on offer for as much as 1,500 pounds.

“You might say, ‘The

tickets are too expensive,’” singer Mick Jagger told *Billboard* magazine in a recent interview. “Well, it’s a very expensive show to put on, just to do four shows, because normally you do a

hundred shows and you’d have the same expenses.” He added that he did not agree with the secondary ticket market and stressed that the Rolling Stones did not profit from tickets changing hands at inflated prices. The concerts celebrating 50 years of the band behind hits like “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction” and “Honky Tonk Women” are part of a series of events marking the milestone including a new documentary, a photograph book and a greatest hits album. The music press has been rife with speculation that the Stones could launch a full world tour next year including a set at the Glastonbury music festival.—Reuters



(L - R) The Rolling Stones members Charlie Watts, Ronnie Wood, Keith Richards and Mick Jagger arrive for the world premiere of the Rolling Stones documentary “Crossfire Hurricane” at the Odeon Leicester Square in London on 18 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Liza Minnelli to guest star on TV musical drama “Smash”

LOS ANGELES, 14 Nov —Liza Minnelli will guest star on an episode of TV musical drama “Smash,” NBC said on Tuesday.

The singer and actress will play herself and sing a

number in one episode of the show when it returns in February 2013. The series, starring Debra Messing, Anjelica Huston and Katharine McPhee, dramatizes the backstage life of

writers, producers and actors working to create a Broadway musical about Marilyn Monroe.

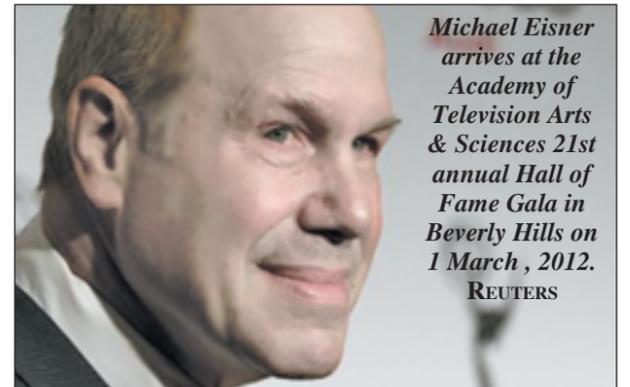
“Liza Minnelli is the essence of a multi-talented, singular show business sensation, particularly for her extraordinary contributions to Broadway,” Robert Greenblatt, the president of NBC Entertainment, said in a statement. “So what could be more fitting than to have her legendary talent on a show that celebrates a world Liza has dazzled for decades?” he added.

The daughter of director Vincente Minnelli and Hollywood legend Judy Garland, Minnelli, 66, is one of a handful of stars to have won an Oscar, Emmy, Grammy and Tony award.

She is best-known for her portrayal of Sally Bowles in the musical “Cabaret.” She is also expected to revive her role as Lucille on the upcoming fourth season of “Arrested Development,” which is slated to air on Netflix after being canceled by Fox in 2006.—Reuters



Singer Liza Minnelli performs during a tribute concert to composer Marvin Hamlisch in New York on 18 Sept, 2012.
REUTERS



Michael Eisner arrives at the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences 21st annual Hall of Fame Gala in Beverly Hills on 1 March, 2012.
REUTERS

Former Disney CEO Eisner back in moviemaking with Universal

LOS ANGELES, 14 Nov —Former Walt Disney Co Chief Executive Michael Eisner has struck a distribution deal with Universal Pictures, a likely prelude to the media mogul raising money to fund film development. Terms of the multi-year deal call for Universal, owned by cable giant Comcast Corp, to market and distribute movies developed and financed by Eisner under the auspices of his privately owned media holding company Tornante Co, Eisner said.

In a phone interview with *Reuters* from Los Angeles, Eisner was cagey about precisely how he planned to finance the movies. Rumours began circulating first in *Variety* in January and then on *CNBC* in May about Eisner trying to raise an \$800 million film fund,

broken out into \$400 million of equity and \$400 million of debt. Eisner declined to give specific details on any fundraising efforts that may be taking place.

Eisner said he will be investing his own money into development and plans to bring partners into the venture. He said JPMorgan Chase & Co, Morgan Stanley, Blackstone Group LP and Moelis & Co were working with him on behalf of the venture. “Obviously, I wouldn’t be making a distribution deal if I wasn’t confident that the films would be financed,” he said. Despite having spent more than two decades at the helm of Disney, Eisner said he did not have any discussions with the company regarding this deal and described Universal as a “natural fit.”

Reuters

Debut for newcomers and 100th cap for Gerrard

Soccer

LONDON, 14 Nov—Liverpool's teenager winger Raheem Sterling is set to make his debut for England while his club teammate and captain Steven Gerrard is expected to earn the 100th cap in England's friendly against Sweden in Stockholm on Wednesday.

England coach Roy Hodgson has revealed that the 17-year-old Sterling, alongside Tottenham Hotspur centre-back Steven Caulker and Everton midfielder Leon Osman, will make their international debuts. Five more play-

ers will also be waiting for their first England caps on Wednesday, including Celtic goalkeeper Fraser Forster, Stoke City defender

Ryan Shawcross, Chelsea left-back Ryan Bertrand, Arsenal full-back Carl Jenkinson as well as Crystal Palace forward Wilfried

Zaha, who was born in Cote d'Ivoire.

After being cleared to travel with the squad following a scan on a knee injury on Monday, England captain Steven Gerrard is set to become the sixth player ever that has earned 100 international caps for England.

The exclusive club includes only Peter Shilton, David Beckham, Bobby Moore, Bobby Charlton and Billy Wright, with legendary goalkeeper Shilton's 125 caps being the top record—Xinhua



Steven Gerrard

Timberwolves' Budinger out for 3-4 months after knee

Basketball surgery

New York, 14 Nov—The injury-hit Minnesota Timberwolves were dealt another blow on Tuesday with forward Chase Budinger expected to be sidelined for at least three months after having knee surgery.

Budinger, who has flourished as a perimeter player this season, tore a lateral meniscus in his left knee during the final quarter of Saturday's 87-80 loss to the Chicago Bulls.

The 24-year-old had surgery in Florida on Tuesday to repair the tear and is expected to be out of action for three to four months,

the Timberwolves said in a statement. Budinger, who was acquired by Minnesota in a trade with Houston in June, is averaging 11.8 points and 3.5 rebounds in six games this season.

His absence further hampers the Timberwolves who are already without Kevin Love (broken hand), Ricky Rubio (left knee surgery), J J Barea (sprained left foot) and Brandon Roy (sore left knee). Minnesota are second in the Western Conference's Northwest standings after making an impressive 5-2 start despite their glut of injuries.

Reuters



Minnesota Timberwolves forward Chase Budinger dunks the ball in front of Brooklyn Nets forward Kris Humphries in the first quarter of their NBA basketball game in New York on 5 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

Liu Rongbing eyes 4th gold at the Asian Gymnastics Championships

Gymnastics

PUTIAN, (Fujian Province), 14 Nov—Chinese gymnast Liu Rongbing continued to impress at the fifth Asian artistic gymnastics championships here on Tuesday, claiming his third gold medal on the pommel horse.

Liu, 21, who won the men's team and all-around titles on the opening day of the championships, put on a clean performance on

the pommel horse to earn the highest score of 14.700 points.

Teammate Zhou Shixiong was 0.100 points behind and had to settle for the silver. "Actually I did expect to win the pommel horse title.

I think this is my best performance in recent four months," said Liu. Despite being the most decorated gymnast at the tournament

so far, Liu said his debut at the Asian championships was not perfect, as he is targeting another title.

"Wednesday's horizontal bar final would be a challenge for me," said Liu, who topped the qualification round after a poor landing cost favourite Lin Chaopan dearly.

Lin, a Fujian native, is battling with waist and shoulder injuries. "I have to

reduce my degree of difficulty to prevent my injuries from worsening. I'm happy with my routine today and looking forward to winning my first individual Asian title tomorrow," said the 17-year-old reigning junior Asian champion.

Wu Liufang of China stepped on the top podium of the women's uneven bars with 15.200 points.

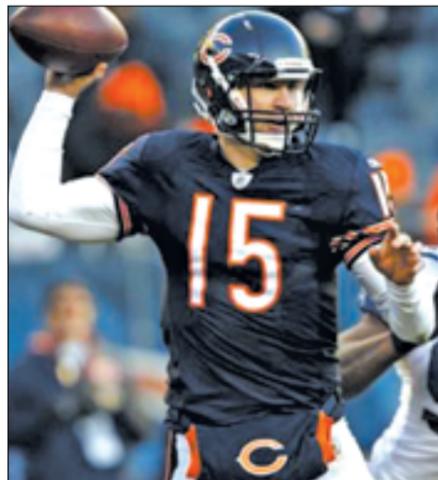
Xinhua

Bears re-sign veteran quarterback McCown

NFL

LOS ANGELES, 14 Nov—Veteran quarterback Josh McCown has been re-signed by the Chicago Bears with Jay Cutler's status still uncertain due to a concussion,

look ahead for situations like that," Bears coach Lovie Smith told reporters. "Every available quarterback is an option for us if we felt like we needed to go in that di-



Chicago Bears quarterback Josh McCown drops back to pass during the fourth quarter of their NFL football game against the Seattle Seahawks at Soldier Field in Chicago on 18 Dec, 2011. REUTERS

the National Football League team said on Tuesday.

Cutler missed the second half of Sunday's 13-6 loss to the Houston Texans after being injured and was replaced by Jason Campbell, who is expected to start on Monday against the San Francisco Giants. However, the Bears sorely needed backup at quarterback and they have again turned to McCown, who began last season as a high school football coach in North Carolina and ended it playing for the Bears.

"We always have to

reaction. "He (McCown) has played good football for us. We're familiar with him."

McCown, 33, appeared in three games for Chicago last season and made two starts, completing 35 of 55 passes for 414 yards with two touchdowns and four interceptions. The nine-year league veteran re-signed with the Bears in March and spent the entire offseason with them before being released on 31 August. Cutler and Campbell are the only two other quarterbacks on Chicago's 53-man roster.

Reuters

Riquelme flags Boca return



Former Argentina international midfielder Juan Roman Riquelme

BUENOS AIRES, 14 Nov—Former Argentina international midfielder Juan Roman Riquelme has flagged the possibility of a comeback with Boca Juniors. Riquelme quit the Buenos Aires club in July after a 3-1 aggregate loss to Brazil's Corinthians in the Copa Libertadores final.

But the 34-year-old said he was open to a return, provided the club wanted him.

"If Boca needs me than I am available," Riquelme told Argentine television

channel TyC Sports on Tuesday. "By the middle of December I will make a decision. I have to know first if they want me then I will sit down with them and make a decision."

The former Barcelona and Villarreal star said the four-month break from football had left him "in better physical shape than six months ago".

"I am feeling good and have been enjoying things that I previously wasn't able to do," Riquelme said.

Xinhua

Federer says courts have made defence the new attack

LONDON, 14 Nov—The curtain came down on a stellar year for men's tennis on Monday, one that saw four different winners of the grand slams and many unforgettable duels, but Roger Federer believes 2013 could be even better if court surfaces were made faster.

Not that long ago men's tennis was dominated by big servers and natural volleyers such as Pete Sampras, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg and even the baseliners like Andre Agassi and Jim Courier had naturally aggressive styles. Before that John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl all played front-foot tennis with rallies usually decided after four or five strikes of the ball. Nowadays, baseline exchanges of 20 plus strokes are commonplace, shots that used to be clean winners are

coming back and matches are stretching longer and longer.

The year began with a near six-hour Australian Open final between Novak Djokovic and Rafa Nadal while the US Open final between Andy Murray and Djokovic was only slightly shorter. More recently the Shanghai Masters final between Murray and Djokovic went to three and a half hours and that was only a best of three set contest. Federer believes slower courts and balls, combined with improved fitness levels, may have tipped the balance too far in favour of those for whom no ball is unreachable.

Speaking after his 7-6, 7-5 loss in the final of the ATP World Tour Finals to Novak Djokovic in another epic, Federer said there was an easy fix to reward the risk-takers.—Reuters



Switzerland's Roger Federer arrives for his final tennis match at the ATP World Tour Finals against Serbia's Novak Djokovic at the O2 Arena in London on 12 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(15-11-12 09:30 am ~ 16-11-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * CVT: The Silver Lining
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * Analysis of Children in Myanmar
- * News
- * Tourism Master Plan Project Myanmar
- * Kyite Htiyoe, the heart of Yamanya Land
- * News
- * Solo Art Shows of Great Artists
- * News
- * 'Yatana Thinga City & Shwe Bon Yatanamingalar Palace

- * News 7:15 am Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Myanmar)
 - * 5th ASEAN Quiz Regional Competition in Cambodia 7:25 am 4:55 pm
 - * News 7:40 am 13. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
 - * Rakhine National Song along with the royal long drum 4. Nice & Sweet Song 5:00 pm
 - * Bye Bye Rainy Season Lucky Draw 5. Song of National Races 14. Sweet Songs For You 5:15 pm
 - * News 6. Dance Variety 15. Science and Environment 5:30 pm
 - * Press Conference of Nippon Foundation in Myanmar 7. Teleplay (Forest) 16. India Drama Series 6:20 pm
 - * Myanmar Movie "The Concealed Love" 8. International News 17. Myanmar Series 6:35 pm
- MYANMAR TV (15-11-2012, Thursday)
- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
 - 4:05 pm 9. Musical Programme
 - 4:30 pm 10. Cute Little Dancers
 - 4:40 pm 11. One Village & One Product
 - 4:40 pm 12. University of Distance



As a gesture of successfully holding the ceremony to pay respects to the aged who passed the art of playing cane-ball on to next generation, a demonstration of Myanmar traditional cane-ball was held at Kyaukmyaung cane-ball club in Kyarkwatthit ward of Tamway Township on 10 November evening. KYEMON

WHO reveals emergency programme to combat yellow fever in Sudan's Darfur

KHARTOUM, 14 Nov — The World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday revealed an emergency program in coordination with Sudan's Federal Ministry of Health to mobilize 2.4 million doses of yellow fever vaccine to combat the disease recently spreading in the Darfur region.

Active search for new cases was ongoing as entomological surveys are being conducted in affected areas, while the state health ministries in the region were also strengthening blood bank units in Geneina and Zalingei in West and Central Darfur, according to the statement.

The WHO requested all the partners to support the response efforts by pooling manpower and financial resources to respond to the outbreak, noting that there is a need for a minimum 4.8 million US dollars to conduct the campaign and provide treatment for patients. Xinhua

Bank of Portugal predicts major recession in 2013

LISBON, 14 Nov—The Bank of Portugal has revised its economic forecasts downwards for the country, anticipating a third year of contraction at 1.6 percent in 2013, according to the bank's Autumn Economic Bulletin published on Tuesday.

This figure was above the 1 percent projected by the government, as well as the banks own forecast of zero percent growth published in the bank's summer bulletin "after considering the impact of the measures set out in Portugal's 2013 state budget," said the statement. The reported added that it has "maintained its projection for 2012, a contraction of 3 percent in line with predictions made by the government and the Troika."

The central bank also noted that weak consumer confidence would also lead to a fall in private consumption above the 3.6 percent forecast.—Xinhua

Bryant says excited about new Lakers coach D'Antoni

Basketball

LOS ANGELES, 14 Nov — Stunned though he was that Phil Jackson has not returned as Los Angeles Lakers head coach, All-Star guard Kobe Bryant said on Tuesday he was

excited about the prospect of playing under new appointee Mike D'Antoni. The Lakers shocked the basketball world on Monday when they named former Phoenix Suns and New York Knicks coach D'Antoni to replace the fired Mike

Brown while overlooking the heavily favored Jackson, an 11-time NBA championship winner.

"We were all thinking it was gonna be Phil," Bryant told reporters after taking part in a Lakers shoot-around. "It probably caught Mike a little bit off guard, too. "But I'm excited. I spoke to Mike (on the phone) this morning. It was great. It was really short, just 'hello.'" While Bryant has deep affection for the ice-cool "Zen Master" Jackson after winning five NBA titles in Lakers colors with the veteran coach, he also holds D'Antoni in high esteem.

A 14-time All-Star, Bryant was a huge fan as a child of D'Antoni's basketball play in Italy,

where he grew up, and later got to know him well when D'Antoni was an assistant coach on the US national team. "We have a great relationship," said Bryant. "The offense that he installed for our USA team was the offense that we ran to the tune of two (Olympic) gold medals.

"We all know the type of talent that we had on that team, so it was important for us to have an offense that was flexible, that was open and that kept everybody involved. It worked pretty well for us. "I've obviously played against his teams for a number of years and I know his philosophy. I know how competitive he is. He's a feisty, feisty dude. Temperamental, even. I like that." — Reuters



Los Angeles Lakers Kobe Bryant reacts during their loss to the Dallas Mavericks in their NBA basketball game in Los Angeles, on 30 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

Argentine capital takes over subway from federal gov't

BUENOS AIRES, 14 Nov—The municipal government of Buenos Aires is set to take over management of the capital city's subway system after more than a year of conflicts with the Argentine federal government over the matter, the mayor said Tuesday.

"On 1 January, we will undertake the official handover to begin to reverse the deterioration" of the six-line subway network, Mauricio Macri told reporters. The local and federal governments agreed on the handover after months of discussions.

"My team and I have arrived at the conclusion that if we don't take charge of the subway, such as it is, it will be worse in the future," said

the mayor. The decision must be approved by the local legislature and a contract be signed between the federal government and the Metrovias company that owns the concession.

The capital's subway system, which transports more than 1 million passengers a day, is afflicted with operating problems. In February, a major subway accident killed 51 passengers.

Macri called on other political sectors to help improve the ailing transportation system, saying the local government could not do the job alone as the federal government has failed to invest in the system.

"I hope other political sectors join us, because

it is debt owed not to the city government, but to the neighbours," he said, referring to the residents in

the city. The city had planned to raise fares from 1.10 to 2.50 pesos (or 23 to 52 US cents).—Xinhua



Snake figurines are made at a foundry in Kawaguchi, Saitama Prefecture, on 13 Nov, 2012, ahead of the Year of the Snake in 2013. —KYODO NEWS

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw holds its fifth day session



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives sign attendance book before attending fifth day session.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—The fifth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex,

here, this morning, attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Mint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and

579 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives. A total of 31 teachers and students from ILBC (Nay Pyi Taw) observed the today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.

Auditor-General of the Union U Thein Htaik

reported to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on important findings from auditing the budgets of the organizations

of the Union government for 2011-12 fiscal year and Vice-Chairman of Joint Public Accounts Committee U Thein Win on findings and comments of the committee.

U Maung Toe of Minhla Constituency made a discussion on the message on loan of K 430.395 billion for state-owned businesses for 2012-13 fiscal year, and Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein made clarifications. The Hluttaw approved the loan.

Regarding the supplementary budget of the

Union Government for 2012-13 fiscal year Bill, Secretary U Saw Hla Tun read out the findings and comments of the Joint Bill Committee, and Union Minister U Win Shein submitted a proposal to discuss the bill at the Hluttaw.

Ten Hluttaw representatives held discussions on principle of the Bill and basic principles, and the Union minister made clarifications.

Today's session ended at 3.45 pm and the sixth day session will be held on 16 November.

MNA

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein makes clarifications.
MNA



Amnesty granted

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has granted amnesty for 452 prisoners including foreigners from various prisons in accord with Section 204 (a) of the constitution and Section 401 (i) of Code of Criminal Procedure as of 15 November, 2012, for establishing stability

of the State and eternal peace, on humanitarian grounds, for turning them into citizens who do their bits in nation building tasks realizing sympathy and goodwill of the State and for prolonging friendship with neighbouring countries.

The government will extradite the foreign prisoners.

MNA

Low pressure area kept watching

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Nov—Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced today that according to the observations at 18.30 hrs MST today, the low pressure area has formed over Southeast Bay and adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal. There are watching further intensify or not.—MNA



U Khet Htein Nan of Kachin State.—MNA

of kitchen foodstuff could not return to normal while price of rice could return to

normal due to winter paddy harvest season in Putao region.—Kyemon

Food, medicines reach Putao

PUTAO, 14 Nov—Union government, state government, INGOs and wellwishers is providing food supplies to Putao in Kachin State where local people are facing food stress starting from early July in 2012.

While the region is under food stress, prices of rice, edible oil and kitchen crops has soared— K 2800 for a basket of processed rice, K 2667 for basket of local rice, K 6500 for a viss of edible oil, K 5000 for a viss of garlic, K 4000 for a viss of onion and more than K 10000 for a viss of dried chilly.

Kachin State government provided local people with 3805 bags of rice from 24 July to 17 October. Moreover, INGOs, NGOs

and other organizations presented 570 bags of rice, kitchen foodstuff and 1500 teak saplings, and Thidagu Sayadaw donated 74 kinds of medicines," State Minister of Social Affairs Daw Bauk Gya said regarding the undertakings of Kachin State government for relieving food stress.

So far, supplies have been airlifted for 44 times by YX airplane and chartered aircraft of Myanmar Airways to the region under the supervision of Kachin State government. Food supplies donated by wellwishers are being transported to the region up to date. Daw Bauk Gya added that prices of rice and foodstuff has dropped at the present.

Locals said that prices



News in Brief

Rural development tasks in full swing

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspected construction of inter-village gravel road between Doenwe and KyaysaU villages,

progress of conduits and culverts and new building at Doenwe Village Basic Education Primary School in Dekkhinathiri Township on 13 November.

School upgraded in Yaksawk

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat attended the upgrading ceremony of Basic Education High School in Kaungboh Village

of Yaksawk Township on 11 November morning and visited the multimedia classroom and domestic science room.

Nyaungdon dwellers on path to prosperity

Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung met representatives of political parties, local people and social organizations at

Hlinepyinnya Gymnasium of Nyaungdon BEHS No 1 on 11 November and inspected development undertakings of Nyaungdon.

Myanmar Health

Research Conference 7-11 Jan

YANGON, 14 Nov—The Ministry of Health will organize the 41st Myanmar Health Research Conference at Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) at No 5 on Ziwaka Road in Dagon Township from 7 to 11 January.

The conference will comprise the paper-reading session on health research, health research poster show and talks on health knowledge.

Enthusiasts may attend it and the local and foreign scholars are invited to the conference.

The conference will

Myanma Alinn