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Maj-Gen Hla Min of Ministry of Defence meets Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton growers in Minhla Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Maj-Gen Hla Min of the Ministry of Defence in company with Chairman of Bago Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Soe Htut and party visited the local station in Paungde, Pyay District on 19 October.

At the briefing hall of six-acre model field of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton in Ottwin Village, Minhla Township, Maj-Gen Hla Min of the Ministry of Defence heard a report on cultivation target and progress in cultivation of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton.

Maj-Gen Hla Min then inspected cotton, cotton wool and sample of pesticides and gave instructions to cotton growers. He looked into the cotton fields and left necessary instructions to officials concerned.—MNA

Motkhar Dam to boost agricultural production in west of Bago Yoma

Byline & Photos : Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

In order to speed up development momentum in west of Bago Yoma and to irrigate about 1000 acres of farmlands, Motkhar Dam is under construction in Minhla Township, Bago Region.

Motkhar creek originates from Bago Yoma, and Yoethaythay Creek and other small creeks flow into it. Motkhar Dam is located between Kantinbelin Dam and Minhla Dam. It will be adjacent to those irrigated areas.

The main purpose of building Motkhar Dam is to irrigate about 1000 acres of farmlands and to help contribute to the development of the region.

Motkhar Dam construction project is situated to the north of Bantkwaygon Village in Minhla Township, west of Bago Yoma. It is of earthen type facility which is 80 feet high and 470 feet long. It can store 24,100 acres feet of water and will irrigate 1000 acres of farmlands in the east and the west of Bago Region, diversion dams and dams are being built. Motkhar Dam will be in the cluster of dams in the west of Bago Region. After completion, the irrigated areas of Motkhar Dam will be adjacent to that of surrounding dams. So, it would contribute much to boosting the agricultural production. The region has average annual rainfall of 67.44 inches and there will be much inflow of water.

The farmers there are to grow quality strains with the use of advanced agricultural methods. After the dam is completed, local farmers can further boost production of crops, especially paddy through mixed- and multiple-cropping patterns.

Translation: MT Kyemon
21-10-2010

A tipper lorry and an excavator seen at spillway construction of Motkhar Dam Project.
PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 23 October, 2010

Thadingyut Fullmoon Day,
Abhidhamma Day

Today, Thadingyut Fullmoon Day or Abhidhamma Day, is a day of religious significance for Buddhist devotees around the world, marking the end of Buddhist raining season retreat. Myanmar month Thadingyut falls between the end of the rainy season and the beginning of the cold season.

In Thadingyut, five species of lotus flowers are in full bloom in lakes. Sweet smells of jasmine and water-lily flowers are spread out throughout surrounding areas. On Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Buddhists hold Lighting Festival as a gesture of hailing the period during which the Buddha returned from Tavatimsa Celestial Kingdom to Human Abode.

On His seventh Vassa (seven years) of enlightenment, the Buddha, out of compassion for the devas and brahmas, went to the Tavatimsa Devaloka (Celestial Abode) and preached the Abhidhamma Pitaka (Basket of Ultimate things) on His deceased mother who was reborn as Santusita Deva for a full three months from Waso Fullmoon Day to Thadingyut Fullmoon Day.

Abhidhamma, the beginning of which is Kusala Dhamma, Akusala Dhamma, is the most surpassing discourse among the Teachings of the Buddha. One can purifies one’s mind from defilements such as greed, anger and ignorance and keep calm while listening to or reciting Abhidhamma discourse.

The Buddha preached Abhidhamma discourse as a result of the perfections he had fulfilled for four sanches and 100,000 aeons successively.

On such an auspicious day, Abhidhamma discourse is being preached across the nation. Therefore, Buddhists are exhorted to spend whole Thadingyut Fullmoon Day reciting Abhidhamma discourse, making charities, observing precepts and performing meditation to achieve good results in this very life and next existences.

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

Fishery inspectors course (4)

concludes

YANGON, 22 Oct—The Fishery Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries held the closing ceremony of fishery inspectors course No. 4 at the Institute of Fishery Science in West Gyotgon, Insein Township, here, this morning.

Director-General of the Fishery Department U Khin Ko Lay addressed the ceremony and presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Minister U Htay Oo receives Executive Director Mr Hiroshi Watanabe of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization of Japan.—MNA

Mr. Fan Jixiang of Sino Hydro Corporation and party visited Myanmar.

Minister U Htay Oo received Mr. Fan Jixiang of Sino Hydro Corporation of the PRC and party at the ministry here on 20 October.

At the call, both sides discussed boosting agricultural production. In the evening, the minister also met President Madam Donatella Dini at the same venue.

Chinese guests call on EP. 1 Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo received a four-member delegation led by Executive director Mr Hiroshi Watanabe of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) from Japan at the ministry here on 20 October.

The meeting focused on establishment of agro-based industries and coffee growing.—MNA

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min receives Executive Director Mr. Hiroshi Watanabe of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization of Japan.—MNA

Minister U Htay Oo receives Group President Mr Fan Jixiang of Sino Hydro Corporation of the PRC.—MNA

Mo Asia Co Ltd-Dumex donates foodstuff and offertories worth K 350,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Associate Secretary U Maung Maung Gy on 22 October.—MNA

MNA
Vietnam says military base not available to other countries

MOSCOW, 22 Oct— Vietnam would not lease out the Cam Rahn military base to foreign countries, the country’s ambassador to Russia said Thursday.

“We are again confirming our position. We will not cooperate with foreign countries in operating the Cam Rahn base. It will be used exclusively for internal purposes,” he was quoted as saying by the Russian media.

Russia recently suggested revamping a military base in Vietnam at the port of Cam Rahn as highly important for the Russian ships base reconstruction.

In 1979, Moscow and Hanoi signed an agreement on using the port by Russian ships for free for 25 years.

In 2002, two years before the agreement expired, Vietnam proposed a 300 million US dollar payment as the annual lease for the base. In the same year, Russia refused to prolong the agreement and withdrew its servicemen from the base.

The port is situated over 4,000 km away Russia’s Far Eastern city of Vladivostok. —Xinhua

Chavez visits Syria on tour to counter US sway

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, left, waves to journalists as he stands next to the Syrian President Bashar Assad, right, at the Syrian presidential palace, in Damascus, Syria, Thursday, 21 Oct, 2010.

INTERNET

DAMASCUS, 22 Oct— On the Mideast leg of an international tour, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said Thursday that he and his Syrian counterpart are “on the offensive” against Western imperialism.

The trip underscores the forces that complicate Washington’s battle for influence in Syria, which is under US sanctions because the State Department considers it a sponsor of terrorism. Despite US outreach, Syria has remained close to Iran and the Al-Qaida groups Hamas and Hezbollah, while building ties with Venezuela.

In Damascus, Chavez said that he and Syrian President Bashar Assad are building ties “to accelerate the fall of (US) imperialist hegemony and the birth of the new world of equilibrium and peace.”

“We’re on the offensive,” Chavez said. “We’re building an alternative.” The two also discussed a proposed oil project and signed several economic agreements.

Chavez arrived in Syria on Wednesday from Teheran, where he and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said they are united in efforts to establish a “new world order” that will eliminate Western dominance over global affairs. —Internet

Bomb attack kills six Pakistani soldiers

PAKISTAN, 22 Oct—A bomb attack killed six Pakistani soldiers in one of the most lawless parts of the country’s northwestern tribal belt on Friday.

The militant attack killed members of the Frontier Corps, the Pakistani paramilitary force that controls security in Balochistan province, a militant stronghold.

A security official said the blast was caused by a landmine and occurred during a routine patrol.

The attack was the latest in a series of violence that has plagued the region in recent weeks.

Tainted celery sickens at least 6 in Texas; 4 die

SAN ANTONIO, 22 Oct— Texas health officials have shut down a processing plant linked to contaminated celery that sickened at least six people this year, four of whom died, and ordered the recall of all of the produce that passed through the plant since January.

SanGar Produce & Processing Co. issued the recall Wednesday after its plant in San Antonio was shuttered. The Texas Department of State Health Services traced six of 10 known cases of listeriosis in the state during an eight month period to celery processed there. The agency is investigating the origins of the other four cases, which include one death.

Health inspectors found problems with sanitation at the plant, including a condensation leak over a food production area. The health department is trying to determine who the now-recalled produce was sold to and whether it was used in other products. The agency recommends that consumers throw out or return all SanGar products.

Key ruling due in NYC ground zero tower fire case

NEW YORK, 22 Oct— The three men charged in the deaths of two firefighters in a blaze at a contaminated, condemned skyscraper at ground zero say they’re scapegoats. Prosecutors say the men are to blame for disregarding and covering up a major safety hazard.

A judge was expected to rule Friday on whether to toss out manslaughter and other charges against Mitchel Alvo, Salvatore DePaola and Jeffrey Melofchik. They are the only people facing criminal charges after a fire that led city officials to acknowledge oversight mistakes.

Alvo, 58, DePaola, 56, Melofchik, 48, and the John Galt Corp, which was helping to take down the former Deutsche Bank building, have pleaded not guilty. If convicted, the men could face up to 15 years in prison.

The building was heavily damaged and filled with toxic debris when the World Trade Centre’s south tower collapsed into it on 11 Sept, 2001. A laborious process of dismantling the now government-owned building has taken years. On 18 Aug, 2007, a construction worker’s careless smoking sparked a fire that tore through several stories of the building. Firefighters contended with a roster of hazards, including deactivated sprinklers, blocked stairwells, an air system that was supposed to control toxins but ended up concentrating smoke, and a break in a crucial firefighting water pipe called a standpipe.

Taleban elements found in South Korea

SEOUL, 22 Oct— Taleban elements have illegally entered South Korea, local media reported Friday citing an unidentified intelligence source.

The South Korea’s intelligence authorities, in collaboration with Interpol, seized a vessel carrying strategic weapons material heading to the Palestinian territories, and are now running after Taleban militants in the country, Seoul Newspaper said.

The Taleban members targeted South Korea due to its lack of systematic control of strategic weapons, the newspaper said.

Xinhua
Science

Moon crash kicks up ice, silver, mercury

WASHINGTON, 22 Oct—A rocket sent crashing into the Moon last year kicked up several hundred pounds (kg) of water, silver, mercury and other surprising chemicals, scientists reported on Thursday.

The U.S. space agency NASA sent the rocket to the permanently shadowed moon crater Cabeus last October to see what would, literally, pop up.

Several reports published in the journal Science show some surprising findings, including a large amount of water in the form of ice, carbon monoxide, ammonia and the silvery metals.

“This place looks like it’s a treasure chest of elements, of compounds that have been released all over the Moon and they’ve been put in this bucket in the permanent shadows,” planetary geologist Peter Schultz of Brown University in Rhode Island said in a statement. During the mission, called LCROSS for Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, the rocket was sent crashing into the dark and freezing crater and instruments on the satellite measured the spectra of light in the dust kicked up.—Reuters

Coral die-off may be the worst ever

CAMBERDA, 22 Oct—Huge swathes of coral in Southeast Asian and Indian Ocean reefs have died in what scientists say may be “the worst such event known to science.” Scientists from the Australian Research Centre and James Cook University say coral cover in the region could drop from an average of 50 percent to about 10 percent and will take years to recover, striking at local fishing and regional tourism industries, ScienceDaily.com reported Thursday.

“It is certainly the worst coral die-off we have seen since 1998. It may prove to be the worst such event known to science,” Andrew Baird of the ARC said. “So far around 80 percent of Acropora colonies and 50 percent of colonies from other species have died since the outbreak began in May this year.”

One of the areas hit by the die-off is the richest marine biodiversity zone on the planet known as the Coral Triangle, which is bounded by Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

“Although the Coral Triangle is the richest region for corals on Earth, it relies on other regions around its fringes to supply the coral spawn and fish larvae that help keep it so rich,” Baird said. “So there are both direct and indirect effects on CR reefs which will affect their ability to recover from future disturbances.”

The bleaching event was triggered by a large pool of super-hot water moving into the eastern Indian Ocean region several months ago, shocking the corals and causing them to shed the symbiotic algae that nourish them, thereby losing color and “bleaching.”

Microbes helping in gulf spill

CAMBRIE, 22 Oct—Microbes in the Gulf of Mexico may be consuming more of the gases spewed from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill than previously thought, researchers say. Research carried out before the oil rig exploded and gushed more than 200 million gallons of crude into the gulf measured the anaerobic oxidation of methane, a major component of the spill, by microbes living in brine pools on the sea floor, ScienceDaily.com reported Thursday. “Because of the ample oil and gas reserves under the Gulf of Mexico, slow seepage is a natural part of the ecosystem,” Peter R Girguis, a professor of biology at Harvard University, says.

“Entire communities have arisen on the seafloor that depend on these seeps. Our analysis shows that within these communities, some microbes consume methane 10 to 100 times faster than we’ve previously realized.”

In research conducted within 100 miles of where the spill would occur, scientists measured methane concentrations in brine pools surrounding gas seeps at the bottom of the gulf.—Internet

Technology

China unveils its own version of Google Earth

BEIJING, 22 Oct—A Chinese government body has released its own online mapping service, designed to compete with Google Earth’s popular satellite mapping service, that could spell more trouble for Google’s services in the mainland.

Google and China have been at odds since last year, when a serious hacking attack originating from China prompted Google to ultimately withdraw its search service from the mainland.

“Map World” was unveiled by the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping on Thursday, and can be accessed via www.tianditu.cn. The home page features an expansive view of the Great Wall of China, capped by clouds in the shape of the continents.

Google had not applied for a Web mapping license in China, the English-language paper said, but Google’s mapping service is accessible from computers on the mainland. Regulations issued by the bureau in May required companies providing online map and location services to apply for a license. In order to apply, firms would have to keep map servers storing data within the country.—Reuters

Rhinos equipped with GPS tracking

Johannesburg, 22 Oct—Five rhinos in South Africa have been “wired” with Global Position System devices to help protect them from poachers, wildlife officials say.

Each of the animals in the country’s North West province had a GPS chip fitted into a small hole drilled in the inert or dead part of its horn, the BBC reported Thursday. As well as GPS tracking, the devices are equipped with alarm systems to alert game wardens at the Mafikeng Game Reserve of unusual movement or if a rhino is outside of the park. “It’s basically a satellite system which connects with the cellphone system and we can monitor the animals on whatever time delay we want,” Rusty Hustler, head of security for North West Parks Board, said. “There are a number of alarms that can be programmed: one for excessive movement, so if the rhino starts running, and another that goes off if the rhino sleeps for longer than six hours, which is abnormal,” Hustler said. An alarm also sounds if the chip goes outside of the area of the game reserve, and a reaction team in the park would be able to track and quickly reach the animal.—Internet

Asia, Europe face wait for Sony’s Google TV

TOKYO, 22 Oct—Sony plans to introduce its Web-surfing Google TV in Europe and Asia but customers may have to wait more than a year and even longer if they’re in China, a senior executive said Thursday.

Sony’s new TV sets, developed with Google Inc the Internet company based in Mountain View, California, went on sale last week in the US, with recommended retail prices from $600 to $1,400.

Yoshihisa Ishida, a senior vice president who oversees the Japanese electronics and entertainment company’s TV business, said Google’s precarious relations with the Chinese government make the TV’s introduction there more challenging than in Japan and Europe.

But adaptations in services are a must to offer the product in Europe and Japan as well and he gave no date. When asked if it could be promised within 2011, he said it couldn’t.

“We want to sell it as soon as possible,” Ishida said. “But I cannot give a date now.”

He was hopeful about the Chinese market because of its sheer size and number of Internet users, but said some obstacles remain for its going on sale there.

Google pulled its search engine from China in March, in protest at censorship, and its future in that nation remains uncertain. “It’s a big market,” Ishida said. “We want to be able to offer it in China in some form.”

Sony Product Planning Department staff Tataya Yokoyama, left, and Sony Product Planner Toshihiko Fushimi unveil Sony’s Web-surfing Google TV in Tokyo, on 21 Oct, 2010. Sony plans to introduce its Web-linked TV sets, developed with Google Inc., in nations other than the US but they may have to wait more than a year, especially in China, said Thursday.—Reuters
Health

Low testosterone ups early death risk

SHEFFIELD, 22 Oct — British researchers link low testosterone levels in younger men to a higher risk of premature death from heart disease.

Chris Malkin of Royal Hallamshire Hospital in Sheffield, England, and colleagues say their finding refutes conventional wisdom that testosterone is a risk factor for cardiovascular disease.

The study, published in the journal Heart, found twice as many men with low testosterone died as did those with normal levels. One in five of those with low testosterone died, compared with one in eight of those with normal levels during the monitoring period.

The researchers base their findings on 930 men, all of whom had coronary artery heart disease and had been referred to a specialist heart centre between 2000 and 2002. Their heart health was then tracked for around seven years.

Testosterone deficiency was defined by either a level of bioavailable testosterone available for tissues to use — of under 2.6 millimoles per litre or a level of total testosterone of under 8.1 millimoles per litre. These showed measures testosterone deficiency — referred to as hypogonadism — as opposed to lowering levels as a result of aging.

One in four of the men was classified as having low testosterone using these measurements.

Infammatory bowel linked to vitamin D

SAN ANTONIO, 22 Oct — A US researcher warns patients with inflammatory bowel disease may be low on vitamin D and also be at risk for bone loss. Dr Bincy Abraham of Baylor College of Medicine at Baylor College in Houston says it is vital patients with inflammatory bowel disease to be evaluated for vitamin D nutritional deficiency that may be putting these patients at greater risk of osteoporosis, osteopenia and an overall higher rate of abnormal bone density.

Abraham and colleagues measured bone density using dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry in 161 inflammatory bowel disease patients and found a reduction in bone density with a diagnosis of osteoporosis or osteopenia in 22 percent of those who were age 50 and under.

“Infammatory bowel disease patients with an abnormal bone density exam had a significantly higher rate of Vitamin D deficiency than those who had normal dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry scans,” Abraham says in a statement.

The study findings were presented at the American College of Gastroenterology’s 75th annual scientific meeting in San Antonio.

Low-dose aspirin slashes colon cancer risk

PARIS, 22 Oct — Low doses of aspirin, taken daily and over the long term, cut cases of colorectal cancer by a quarter and the death toll from this disease by a third, according to a study published online on Friday by The Lancet.

Aspirin is already recommended in low, daily doses by many doctors for patients at risk of a heart attack or stroke. High doses of this cheap, over-the-counter medication have similarly been found to help prevent cancer of the rectum and colon. But, studies have also found, the benefits may well be outweighed by the risks, such as increased bleeding from high aspirin use.

Eager to verify whether low doses can also be protective, researchers followed up four trials in Britain and Sweden, conducted in the 1980s or early 1990s, on the cardiovascular impacts of aspirin.

The study entailed looking over centralised data banks to see whether volunteers in these trials had since died or been diagnosed with colorectal cancer.

On average, the trials lasted six years, entailing volunteers who took either aspirin or a dummy lookalike pill called a placebo. The dosages ranged up to 1.200 mg. Out of 14,033 patients whose health could be traced 18 years or so since the trial, 391 had colorectal cancer, the investigators found.

Taking aspirin reduced the risk of cancer by 24 percent and the risk of dying from it by 35 percent.

The results were consistent across all four trials and there was no increase in bleeding beyond a dose of 75 mg.

Business

Nokia to cut 1,800 jobs as net profit euro529 million

HELSENIK, 22 Oct—Nokia Corp is moving quickly to restructure its lagging smart phone business under new CEO Stephen Elop, announcing Thursday it will lay off 1,800 people even as third-quarter earnings bounced back from a year-ago loss. The world’s largest mobile phone maker reported third-quarter net profit of euro529 million ($733 million). The profit compares to a net loss of euro559 million in the third quarter last year. Net sales in the quarter grew 5 percent to euro10.2 billion. Nokia’s profits were stronger than expected and its stock jumped 7 percent to euro25 ($31.44) in Helsinki.

The company said it was cutting jobs as it shakes up product development in its Symbian smart phone joint venture. —INTERNET

Toyota recalling 1.5 million cars as woes go on

DETROIT, 22 Oct — Just when Toyota thought its safety problems were over, they flare up all over again.

Less than a year after it was tarnished by reports of runaway cars, the automaker recalled 1.5 million vehicles Thursday to address brake-fluid and fuel-pump troubles, drawing new attention to safety issues that have festered inside the company for years. The world’s No 1 carmaker said there would not be any devaluations, a measure that could boost the dollar, although officials indicated there would not be any acceleration problems were blamed on driver error, he noted, but these problems were because of deterioration of parts.

G20 officials pour cold water on US trade target plan

GYEONGJU, 22 Oct — An agreement to tackle economic imbalances and fend off the prospect of damaging currency devaluations looked set to evade global financial leaders at the G20 meeting in South Korea. G20 finance officials started their formal meetings on Friday with nations from the developing world and Japan dismissing US proposals to set caps on current account balances in a bid to defuse tensions over currencies that economists fear could trigger trade wars. “We need to talk about it first, but numerical targets are unrealistic,” Japanese Finance Minister Yoshihiko Noda said on Friday.

The best the meeting could hope for, officials said, was a firmer statement on avoiding competitive currency devaluations, a measure that could boost the dollar, according to the central banks.

The sign at San Francisco Toyota car dealership is seen before the US automaker recalled 1.5 million vehicles Thursday to address brake-fluid and fuel-pump troubles, drawing new attention to safety issues that have festered inside the company for years. The world’s No 1 carmaker said there would not be any devaluations, a measure that could boost the dollar, although officials indicated there would not be any acceleration problems were blamed on driver error, he noted, but these problems were because of deterioration of parts.

Reuter

Nokia’s Research Centre in Helsinki, October 2007. The world’s largest mobile phone maker Nokia reported a return to profit in the third quarter, posting an unusually strong net figure of $29 million euros but revised down its market share for 2010.—INTERNET

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Reuter

although officials indicated there would not be any significant hardening of rhetoric.“The reference to avoiding ‘competitive currency undervaluation’ as a goal between big economies is not new but appeared in a previous G20 meeting in the UK. It will likely appear again in the communique this time,” a senior G20 negotiator who spoke on condition of anonymity told Reuters.

The US dollar index, which measures the dollar’s performance against a basket of six major currencies, was down 0.12 percent, near a low for the year stuck last Friday and currency strategists said there would be further weakness if the G20 disappointed. —Reuters
Hundreds sent to battle Indonesian forest fires

Many of the fires smouldering across Sumatra have been lit by small landholders to clear trees from areas of peatland in order to grow oil palm or other crops.

“We have been making efforts to contain the fires. It’s very difficult in the peatland areas,” Forestry Ministry Zulkifli Hasan told reporters.

Singapore Foreign Minister George Yeo phoned his Indonesian counterpart Manta Natalegawa earlier Friday to formally raise the city state’s concerns about severe air pollution, and offer its help to control the fires.

Natalegawa assured Minister Yeo that Indonesia would address the haze problem, adding that many Indonesians in Sumatra are also affected,” the Singapore foreign ministry statement said. Air pollution in Singapore spiked to unhealthy levels Friday.—INTERNET

Congo plane crashes into gorilla park; two dead

KINSHASA, 22 Oct — A Congolese official says two people died when their small plane crashed into a gorilla park in eastern Congo.

Provincial Transportation Minister Laban Kashande says the small cargo plane crashed in Kahuzi-Biega National Park, which is home to endangered eastern lowland gorillas. He says Thursday’s crash killed the Filipino pilot and his Congolese co-pilot. UN Radio says there were no survivors.

Kashande says the plane was owned by a local airliner called Starec Congo and was carrying some 3,300 pounds (1,500 kilograms) of commercial goods.—INTERNET

Four killed in small plane crash in California

LOS ANGELES, 22 Oct — Four people were killed when a small airplane crashed in southern California of the United States on Thursday, authorities said.

The crash, which was reported shortly after noon, set off a fire to a small barn in the center of Agua Dulce, a small town with a population of 4,000 in northern Los Angeles County. It was not immediately clear if the people killed were aboard the plane or on the ground, Los Angeles County Fire Inspector Don Kunitom said. Three horses were also killed in the fire, he added.

Police confirm explosion in downtown Naughty.

Beijing, 22 Oct — An American was injured in an explosion near a subway station in downtown Beijing Thursday afternoon, police confirmed late Thursday.

The blast happened at 3:20 pm Thursday beside a newspaper stand near the Dongzhimen subway station in Dongcheng District, police said in a press release.

Police said a 30-year-old American studying in China, who happened to pass by, was slightly injured in the leg and had been rushed to a nearby hospital.

Police are investigating the cause of the blast.—Xinhua

California braces for the Big One with fake quake

BURBANK, 22 Oct — With choppers clattering in the sky above, bloodstained students watch in shock as blaring ambulance screech into the schoolyard, disgorging paramedics with medicine packs and gurneys.

At least that’s what it looked like, as one California school put on a graphic display Thursday of what will happen when not if the Big One hits this earthquake-prone western US state.

One American injured in blast in downtown Beijing

BEIJING, 22 Oct — An American was injured in an explosion near a subway station in downtown Beijing Thursday afternoon, police confirmed late Thursday.

The blast happened at 3:20 pm Thursday beside a newspaper stand near the Dongzhimen subway station in

As security in the province plagued by militancy and terrorism.

The suspects were allegedly involved in extortion, land mafia and other petty crimes, and they are being questioned, an official said.

A senior police officer confirmed that majority of the detained are Afghan refugees. Balochistan shares a long border with Afghanistan and Iran.

Mexico arrests man accused of detonating car bomb

MEXICO CITY, 22 Oct — Federal police announced Thursday that they arrested a gang member who detonated the first successful car bomb by Mexican drug cartels, an attack that killed three people in the border city of Ciudad Juarez.

Federal police present 13 alleged drug cartel members to the press in Mexico City, on 21 Oct, 2010.—INTERNET

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Xinhua

43 Taleban suspects arrested in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 Oct — Pakistan police arrested at least 43 suspects on charges of keeping connection with Taleban militants in the southwest Balochistan Province, police sources told Xinhua.

The arrest had been made by security forces on Thursday evening during a raid in Kuchalak, an outskirt of provincial capital Quetta, in an attempt to ensure security in the province plagued by militancy and terrorism.

The suspects were allegedly involved in extortion, land mafia and other petty crimes, and they are being questioned, an official said.

A senior police officer confirmed that majority of the detained are Afghan refugees. Balochistan shares a long border with Afghanistan and Iran.

Xinhua
The Significant and Noble Day of Abhidhamma
(The Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Mahapavarana Day)

Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)

The Significant and Noble Day of Abhidhamma (the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Mahapavaran Day) falls on 23rd October in the year 2010.

In the fourth week, after attaining the enlightenment, the Buddha descended from the Mountain Meru to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode. The Devas and Brahmans who took right stairway and fanning Him. At that time, because of unlimited miraculous powers, supernalormal powers and glory of the Buddha, the whole earthings could see the magnificent celestial abode, and also the Devas and Brahmans could see hundreds of thousands of millions of people greeting and paying deep homage to the Buddha who descended at the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Mahapavaran Day).

The Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Mahapavaran Day) has been marked by Buddhists as the significant and noble day of Abhidhamma since then (over 2500 years ago). On the auspicious occasion of the Abhidhamma (Mahapavaran Day), in remembrance of the Buddha, members of the Sangha recite Abhidhamma discourses, and multifarious Buddhist devotees offer lights, water, flowers, incense, fragrant scents, fruits and other offerings. And also, Dhamma talks about Abhidhamma (Mahapavaran) Day are held. On this noble day, most Buddhists keep nine precepts for their meritorious deeds dedicating to the attainment of noble stage of Nibbana (supreme bliss).

The Pali term Abhidhamma is composed of Abhi which means subtle or ultimate, and Dhamma which means truth or doctrine. The Abhidhamma, therefore, means subtle or ultimate truth or doctrine. The Abhidhamma Pitaka consists of the four ultimate things, Mind (Citta), Psychicfactor (Cetasikas), Matter (Rupa) and Nibbana. It is the most important and most interesting to a deep thinker. It is subdivided into seven books.

When the Buddha had preached the Abhidhamma for a full three months to His deceased mother who was reborn as Santusita Deva and to other devas and brahmans at the celestial abode, He said to the king of the celestials that He would return to the human abode. Therefore, the king of the celestials created and arranged three stairways of silver, gold and ruby beginning from the top of the great Mount Meru to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode.

Sending forth the six coloured rays emanated from His body, the Buddha descended by the middle stairway of ruby to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode (on earth). The Devas (celestial beings) accompanied the Buddha from the right side stairway of gold playing musical instruments and fanning the Buddha. The Brahmans (higher celestial beings) accompanied the Buddha from the left side stairway of silver putting up white umbrellas.

When the Buddha returned from the celestial abode to the human abode, the highest Brahma realm, Ekamanta, the lowest Avijj (apaya planes of miserable existences), the four cardinal points, the ten directions and thousands of worlds were clearly visible without any blockage and barrier because of unlimited miraculous powers, supernalormal powers and glory of the Buddha. People could see the whole celestial abode, Devas and Brahmans, and all celestial beings in turn viewed more than hundreds of thousands of million of people who were welcoming and paying deep homage to the Buddha. There was no one that did not wish and pray to become a Buddha, the noblest wish after witnessing the most surpassing splendour.

Up to this day, we can visualize the most surpassing splendour and significant event of the Omniscent Buddha descending to the earth from the great Mount Meru accompanied by Devas and Brahmans to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode.

On the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, we all Buddhists generously offer lights, water, flowers, scents, fruits, food and other various kinds of offertories to pagodas and monasteries and also pay respects to teachers, parents and elders. These meritorious deeds dedicate to the attainment of the noble stage of Nibbana through the most surpassing splendour and significant event of the Omniscent Buddha descending to the human abode from the celestial abode on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut.

YCDC building new pavements

Yangon, 22 Oct—Engineering Department of Yangon City Development Committee (Road & Bridge) is building new concrete pavement on both sides of U Wisara Road in Dagon Township. YCDC Chairman Yangon Mayor U Aung Thein Lin oversaw the work this morning.

The Mayor also inspected progress of new concrete pavement along Kandawgyi Lake circular road in Bahan Township and concreting some roads in Tamwe Township.—MNA

Civil service course for junior officers concludes

Yangon, 22 Oct—The conclusion of civil service course No. 17 for junior officers took place at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) here this morning.

Pro-rector (Admin) U Tun Kyi delivered a speech, and presented prizes to outstanding trainees, and certificates to the trainees.

Fifty-three female staff from ministries attended the four-week course.—MNA

Yangon Mayor U Aung Thein Lin inspects newly-built pavement of U Wisara Road in Dagon Township.—MNA
Cyclone Giri reaches red level

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations recorded at 3.30 am today, cyclone Giri over the mid-east of the Bay of Bengal continued to move northeastwards with its centre in the sea, about 110 miles southwest of Kyaukpyu. The cyclone is likely to become stronger and forecast to cross Rakhine coast between Sittway and Kyaukpyu within 18 hours from this morning.

The cyclone Giri is now at red level and is forecast to move towards Rakhine coast.

When the cyclone moves towards land, wind speed may reach 65 to 70 mph and tidal waves may rise up to 5 to about 8 feet.

Therefore, there is likelihood of tidal waves in Kyaukpyu, Yanbye, Munaung and An townships of Kyaukpyu District and Sittway, Pauktaw and Myebon townships of Sittway District.

The people from coastal areas of those regions are advised to move to safety in advance.

Alongside the cyclone, squalls are likely to be widespread. So, the people from highlands or slopes in Rakhine State are warned to avert possible dangers of landslides.

Under the influence of the cyclone, squalls are likely to be widespread along Rakhine coast and offshore areas with strong waves. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 50 to 65 mph.

Trawlers and ships are therefore warned to avert possible dangers of the cyclone.

Cyclone Giri moving towards Rakhine coast

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations recorded at 9 am today, cyclone Giri over the mid-east of the Bay of Bengal continued to move northeastwards with its centre in the sea, about 70 miles southwest of Kyaukpyu.

The cyclone is now intensifying and is forecast to cross Rakhine coast between Sittway and Kyaukpyu beginning this noon, and to reach inland within next 12 hours.

The cyclone Giri is now at red level and is moving towards Rakhine coast.

Its wind speed while crossing Rakhine coast is forecast to reach 70 to 75 mph, and tidal waves, as high as 12 feet. Tidal waves may hit Kyaukpyu, Yanbye, Munaung and An townships in Kyaukpyu District, and Sittway, Pauktaw and Myebon townships in Sittway District. Accordingly, local people of those coastal regions are warned to move to safety in advance.

In addition, torrential rains are likely to be widespread during the storm. Therefore, local people of low-lying areas close to hillsides of mountains are warned to avert possible dangers of landslides.

Under the influence of the cyclone, squalls are likely to be widespread along Rakhine coast and offshore regions with likelihood of strong waves. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 70 to 75 mph and 50 to 65 mph in the Delta. Trawlers and ships are therefore warned to avert the dangers of the catastrophe.

Cyclone Giri to make landfall this evening between Sittway and Kyaukpyu

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations recorded at 1.00 hrs today, cyclone Giri over the mid-east of the Bay of Bengal has become stronger, moving northeastwards with its centre in the sea, about 50 miles southwest of Kyaukpyu.

The cyclone will make landfall this evening crossing between Sittway and Kyaukpyu.

The stronger cyclone Giri is now at red level and is moving towards Rakhine coast.

The maximum wind speed at its center is about 75 mph and may reach 85 mph. As the maximum tidal wave may rise up to 12 feet in Kyaukpyu, Yanbye, Munaung, An, Sittway, Pauktaw, Myebon Townships, the people from coastal areas of those regions where there is likelihood of tidal waves are to move to safety in advance.

Alongside the cyclone, squalls are likely to be widespread along Rakhine Coast and the offshore with strong waves.

Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 70-75 mph along Rakhine coast and 50 mph in Delta region. Ships and trawlers are therefore warned to avert possible dangers of the natural disaster.

Cyclone Giri reaches brown level

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations recorded at 3.30 pm today, a cyclonic storm “Giri” over the mid-east of the Bay of Bengal and adjoining north-east of the Bay of Bengal has intensified further into a severe cyclonic storm and is crossing Rakhine coast near Kyaukpyu.

The severe cyclonic storm “Giri” is now at brown level and is crossing Rakhine coast.

The maximum wind speed near its center is about 100 mph and it may reach 120 mph.

As the maximum tidal wave may rise up to 12 feet in Kyaukpyu, Yanbye, Munaung, An, Sittway, Pauktaw, Myebon, Ponnagyun and Minbya Townships, the people from coastal areas of those regions where there is likelihood of tidal waves are to move to safety in advance.

Alongside the cyclone that is likely to move northeastward as an inland storm after it crossed over Rakhine coast, squalls are likely to be in Rakhine State, Chin State, Magway Region, Mandalay Region and Sagaing Region. So the people near highland/slope and low lying areas are warned to avert possible dangers of landslides.

Under the influence of the cyclone, squalls are likely to be widespread along Rakhine Coast and the offshore with strong waves.

Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 80-100 mph along Rakhine coast and 45 mph in Delta region. Ships and trawlers are therefore warned to avert possible dangers of the natural disaster.
Cyclone Giri moving northeastwards crossing between Myaypon and An Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations recorded at 7.30 pm today, cyclone Giri over the mid-east and adjoining northeast of the Bay of Bengal is moving into inland area crossing Rakhine coast near Nayngdaw Island, Azingyi Island and Kyunhaya Island about 15 miles to the north of Kyaukpyu. The cyclone Giri will be crossing Rakhine coast between Myaypon Township and An Township moving northeastwards.

The cyclone Giri is now at brown level (emergency state) and is crossing Rakhine coast. The maximum wind speed near its center is about 100 mph and may reach 120 mph. As tidal waves may reach as tall as 12 feet in Kyaukpyu, Yanbye, Manaung, An, Sittway, Pauktaw, Myebon, Ponnagyn, Minbya Townships, the people from coastal areas of those regions where there is likelihood of tidal waves are to evacuate to safe places.

Since the cyclone is forecast to move northeastwards as an inland storm after crossing Rakhine coast, torrential rains are likely to be widespread in Rakhine State, Chin State, Magway Region, Mandalay Region and Sagaing Region. So, the people in highlands, or hillsides and low-lying areas are warned to avert possible dangers of landslides.

Under the influence of the cyclone, squalls are likely to be widespread along Rakhine coast and offshore regions with likelihood of strong tidal waves. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 80 to 100 mph along Rakhine coast and 45 mph in Delta regions. Trawlers and ships are therefore warned to avert the dangers of the catastrophe. —MNA

Commander attends prize-presentation of shooting contest

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—The prize-presentation ceremony for South-West Command Commander’s Championship Shield shooting contest took place at the local training school in Hinthada District on 18 October, attended by Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Win. The commander and officials presented championship shield and prizes to the winning teams.

Next, the commander and party proceeded to the rubber plantation in Ingapu and heard a report on nursing of rubber saplings. And the commander looked into construction of the Pathein-Monywa road. —MNA

Commander, Minister visit Sittway, An Airport

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Soe Thein and Minister for Transport U Thein Swe visited Sittway Airport on 16 October. The commander and the minister inspected the condition of the airport and attended to the needs. On 19 October, the commander and the minister visited An Airport and heard a report on condition of the runway and progress in face-lift of the airport building.

The minister left necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements. —MNA

Warnings for preparedness measures against storm

Now is the time when depressions and storms occur in the Bay of Bengal and Myanmar’s waters. There may cause loss and damage due to storms that cross the Myanma coastal areas.

It is warned that the following points are to be followed in order not to cause undesirable consequences due to storms.

1. Tune in to ‘storm news’ and ‘storm warnings’ on TV, radio and FM radios and don’t believe in rumours.
2. Carefully listen to news releases as the department concerned issues storm news when a storm occurs in the Bay of Bengal and it causes no danger in Myanmar and ‘storm warnings’ when a storm is moving towards Myanmar.
3. If a severe storm is likely to move towards your own region, evacuate your family members to a safe place by using a shortest way. Arrange to take important items, radios, torch lights, drinking water, preserved food, medicine and cattle.
4. Contact those going fishing at sea and those going on a trip so that they can be informed about the storm.
5. Arrange to take children, sick people and elders to a safe place.
6. Systematically pack and keep damageable things in a safe and secure place.
7. Make sure that all of your family members are in the shelter during the storm. If the shelter you are in is in danger of collapse, stay under firm tables or beds.
8. Get out of the shelter only when the authorities concerned announces that there is no more danger of storm. Receive medical treatment if your family members are injured.
9. Believe in and follow only the news and advice issued by authorities concerned.
10. Don’t go round and view debris after the storm. Stay away from and don’t touch the fallen electric cables and inform the nearest electrical engineer’s office about it.
11. Drink boiled water as cholera may outbreaks in the aftermath of storm. Keep yourself warm in order not to catch a cold.

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Soe Thein and Minister for Transport U Thein Swe inspect An Airport in Rakhine State. —MNA
Public warning about possible landslide

**Signs of landslide**

1. Windows and doors of the house are getting tight
2. Cracks appear in brick walls of the house
3. Cracks appear in concrete foundations of the house
4. Fences of the house move or turn down on one side
5. Cracks appear in concrete/hard roads
6. Cracks that have not leaked water before leak water
7. Brick walls, fences, lamp posts and trees come to sway and move
8. Faint sound at the beginning and the sound is louder when the landslide gets close to you

**Preparedness measures to be taken against landslide**

1. Listen to public warnings on radio and TV in order to know a possible landslide in advance
2. To seek knowledge about signs of landslides
3. If signs of a landslide are noticed, go to a safe place in advance
4. If signs of a landslide are noticed, inform it to those in authority as soon as possible
5. If signs of a landslide are noticed, inform neighbours as soon as possible

**Measures to be taken after landslide**

1. Not to stay near the landslide
2. To take care as there might be another landslide in the scene
3. To cooperate with rescue teams to rescue victims
4. To give first aid to victims and rush them to nearest hospital or health centre as soon as possible
5. To remove rubbles and wreckage as soon as possible
6. Not to touch power lines on the ground

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**Preparedness measures to be taken against storm**

(a) To listen to storm news
(b) To take shelter on hills and mountains in time in the face of a storm
(c) To strengthen windows, doors and roofs
(d) Not to go fishing at sea and travel by sea
(e) Store food, medicines, drinking water, electric torch and tarpaulin sheet
(f) Put important materials and documents into a glazed earthen pot or waterproof bag and bury it in the ground
(g) Move to storm-proof buildings and shelters as soon as possible

**Measures to be taken during storm**

(a) Not to get out of the shelter
(b) Keep inner tubes, empty buckets, banana stems, and car tyres
(c) Keep windows and doors closed. If a window or door is blown off by the storm, make an exit opposite the window or door as soon as possible to let the strong wind blow away

**Measures to be taken after storm**

(a) Get home only after getting news that the disaster has abated
(b) Not to stay under unsafe buildings and trees
(c) Not to touch power lines on the ground
(d) Not to let children play in sites from which water is not drained off
(e) To drink boiled water

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**Forestry Minister back from Brunei**

YANGON, 22 Oct—Minister for Forestry Chairman of the National Commission for Environmental Conservation U Thein Aung arrived back in Myanmar by air on 16 October, after attending the 12th ASEAN Environmental Conservation Ministerial Meeting held at the Empire Hotel in Banjarmasin, Indonesia on 13 October.

Minister of Development of Brunei Mr Pehin Dato Sayol Haji Osman delivered an opening speech to open the meeting.

Minister U Thein Aung held discussions about cooperation on reduction of transboundary haze pollution between Myanmar and Thailand at the 6th Meeting of the Conference of the parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution. In the afternoon, he addressed the 12th ASEAN Environmental Conservation Ministerial Level informal meeting.

The minister also delivered addresses at the meeting of ASEAN + Japan, Republic of Korea and the People’s Republic of China on 14 October; and the 2nd East Asia Environmental Conservation Ministerial Meeting on 15 October.

In addition, the minister sat down with deputy ministers and deputy ministers and held talks about opportunities of bilateral cooperation.

Members of the delegation:

Deputy Director-General U Tin Tun of the Forest Department and Joint-Secretary of the National Commission for Environmental Conservation Dr San Win arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

**Chairman of Rakhine State election sub-commision meets members of election sub-commisions in Sittway**

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Chairman of Rakhine State Election Sub-Commission U Aung Mya and Chairman of Sittway District Election Sub-Commission U Soe Khant, accompanied by members of the district election sub-commision, and the township election sub-commissions on 14 October met with members of ward/village-tract election sub-commissions, and polling stations in Aungdaing Village-tract and Bumay Village-tract in Sittway Township and discussed electoral process, location and organizational set-up of polling stations.

They then viewed polling stations and made suggestions about the preparations.

MNA

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**Measures to be taken after landslide**

(a) Not to stay near the landslide
(b) To take care as there might be another landslide in the scene
(c) To cooperate with rescue teams to rescue victims
(d) To give first aid to victims and rush them to nearest hospital or health centre as soon as possible
(e) To remove rubbles and wreckage as soon as possible
(f) Not to touch power lines on the ground

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**Industry-2 Minister meets Italian industrialist**

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein received Vice President Mr G.C Lavaroni of Danieli G.Sp.A Company of the Republic of Italy at the ministry here yesterday.

They hold discussion about potentials for cooperation in developing industries in Myanmar and technology transfer.

MNA

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**Dy Health Minister visits hospitals and rural health centres in Paungde Township**

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Deputy Health Minister U Aung Tun, Kyaw Zin Thit, Waimar Tun, Tun, Aye Thitsa Myint (Taolu) of Myanmar Wushu Federation left here for the PRC this morning.

In meeting with health staff, townsenders and members of social organizations, the minister called for putting emphasis on health of rural folks and mothers and children, use of flush toilets, consumption of clean water, cultivation of hand-washing habit and launch of mass campaigns against malaria, TB and AIDS.

MNA

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**Myanmar Wushu players to participate in 8th International Shaolin Wushu Festival**

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Oct—Tsp participate in the 8th International Shaolin Wushu Festival to be held in Zhengzhou of the People’s Republic of China from 22 to 28 October, Manager U Tun Tun Oo (Sanskhou), U Aye Cho Tu (Taolu), coach Daw Swe Swe Thant, players Wai Lin Aung (Sanskhou), and William Thein Tun, Kyaw Zin Thit, Waimar Tun Thein, Aye Thitsa Myint (Taolu) of Myanmar Wushu Federation left here for the PRC this morning.

MWF President Dr Sai Sam Tun and personnel saw them off at Yangon International Airport.

MNA
Iran, Venezuela sign 11 MoUs

TEHERAN, 22 Oct—Iran and Venezuela signed 11 memorandums of understanding (MoU) during Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez’s visit to Teheran, the local satellite Press TV reported Thursday.

The agreements, signed by the ministers of the two countries on Wednesday, promoted cooperation including oil, natural gas, textiles, trade and public housing projects, the report said.

During Chavez’s visit, Iran hosted energy talks with Venezuela as part of the two sides’ efforts to boost bilateral cooperation in oil, gas and petrochemical industries.

Both countries agreed to form a joint oil shipping company and set up petrochemical plants, according to the report.

Venezuela’s state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA will also participate in the exploitation of Iran’s South Pars gas field, said Press TV.

Heading a delegation of economists and politicians, Chavez arrived in Teheran late Monday for talks on promoting economic ties, especially of politicians, Chavez arrived in Teheran late Monday for talks on promoting economic ties, especially of energy cooperation with Iran.

China’s unemployment rate falls to 4.1% by Q3

BEIJING, 22 Oct—China’s urban unemployment rate stood at 4.1 percent at the end of September, with 9.05 million urbanites registered as unemployed, a Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security official said here Friday.

The rate dropped 0.1 percentage points from 4.2 percent at the end of the second quarter this year, Yin Chengji, spokesman of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MHRSS), told a press conference.

Small Dutch passenger ferry capsizes after crash

AMSTERDAM, 22 Oct—A freight ship struck a passenger ferry in a canal near Amsterdam Friday, capsizing the smaller vessel and knocking several people into the water, national police say.

“At this moment emergency services are trying to pull victims out of the water,” spokesman Frans Zuiderhoek said in a telephone call broadcast on Dutch state broadcaster NOS.

Zuiderhoek said that after the collision the ferry was left floating upside down. He said it is not certain how many people were on the ferry, which is used to carry pedestrians and often their bicycles across the heavily-used internal waterway. He said he could not confirm any injuries.

Divers are in the water looking for victims and a helicopter is being used to search the water for warm spots.

The incident took place near the town of Nieuwer Ter Aa, roughly 6 miles (10 kilometers) south of Amsterdam.—INTERNET

Boeing books 50 orders for 737s; total hits 472 for year

NEW YORK, 22 Oct—US aerospace giant Boeing on Thursday revealed 50 new orders for its 737 jetliner on its website, worth about 3.5 billion dollars, bringing total orders for the year so far to 472.

The 50 orders were by “unidentified customers,” according to a list dated 19 October. The online tally is updated on Thursdays.

A Boeing spokesman told AFP the 50 orders represented 3.5 billion dollars at current catalogue prices.

Total commercial aircraft orders in the year to date rose to 472, of which 432 are for the 737, the Chicago-based company’s best-selling jetliner.

In September, Boeing announced it would ramp up its production rate for the Next-Generation 737 programme, to 38 airplanes per month in the second quarter of 2013.

Several months earlier the company had announced a rate increase from 31.5 to 35 airplanes per month in early 2012.

Boeing says the entire 737 family has won more than 8,000 orders, a record in aviation history.

On Wednesday Boeing posted a robust third-quarter net profit of 837 million dollars that beat expectations, and boosted its full-year earnings forecast, as it delivered more jetliners.—INTERNET

Mexican military men prepare the 134 tons of marijuana for cremation in a military base in Tijuana, Baja California, north of Mexico, on 20 Oct, 2010.—Xinhua

9-month sales reach $85.56 billion

GENEVA, 22 Oct—Swiss food and drinks giant Nestle says its sales over the first nine months of the year reached 82.77 billion Swiss francs ($85.56 billion).

The company reported sales of 79.55 billion francs for the same period last year.

Nestle says it saw sales grow in all regions and categories. Food and beverage sales alone reached 77 billion francs.

The Vevey, Switzerland-based company said Friday it expects year-on-year growth in constant currencies of 5 percent for 2010.

Like many Swiss companies Nestle has seen its results suffer from the weak US dollar. —INTERNET
Fish population to shrink drastically over next 40 years

Tokyo, 22 Oct—A report released by the United Nations Environment Programme predicted that the fish populations in the world will decline drastically in the next 40 years due to the factors including overfishing, rises in sea surface temperatures, and marine pollution, local media reported on Thursday. It warns that larger species such as tuna will almost disappear, leaving fisheries dependent on smaller species measuring around 20 centimeters, the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

The release of the report on marine ecosystems coincided with an ongoing international conference on biodiversity in the central Japanese city of Nagoya. Representatives from all corners of the world gathered in the central Japanese city of Nagoya on Monday for the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, known as COP10.

If the marine environment continues to deteriorate at the current rate, multi-million dollar services including fisheries and tourism could be adversely affected, UNEP officials were quoted as saying.

Blast in Iran’s marine establishments kills one, wounds two

TEHERAN, 22 Oct—One was killed and two others were wounded in a blast incidence in Iran’s Khorramshahr marine establishments, Iran Marvinews Website reported on Friday.

The manager of Engineering and Iranian Marine Establishments Construction Company in Iran’s southwestern port city of Khorramshahr said that in the incident, which took place on Thursday in the deck of one of the old piping storehouses of the company, one was killed and two other workers were wounded, according to the report.

The blast happened in the remaining ammunition from the Iran-Iraqi war in 1980s left in the site, said the report.

The manager of the company who was identified by his last name Eslahi said that the company stores its 12-meter-long pipes in the outdoors in Khorramshahr port.

US researchers call for smoking-free buildings

LOS ANGELES, 22 Oct—Non-smokers’ health could be threatened by secondhand smoking from their neighbours, demonstrating the need to have smoking-free buildings, US researchers say.

To determine the impact of neighbours’ secondhand smoking on non-smokers, researchers at Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) in Buffalo, New York, analyzed air quality data from 30 apartments within 11 buildings.

The findings show that secondhand smoke can travel from the apartments of smokers to hallways and apartments of non-smokers.
**Renault, hands off our name!” say girls called Zoe**

The Renault near final model, called ZOE is displayed during the press days of the Paris Motor Show in September 2010.

Two French families called Renault went to court Thursday to stop the car company of the same name calling its new electric model “Zoe”, for fear that their daughters called Zoe will face ridicule.

“We don’t want to hear ‘It’s time for your oil change’ or ‘show us your airbags’”, the plaintiff’s lawyer David Koubbi told a court, accusing the firm of “stealing a child’s name to compensate for an underperforming car.” “Industrialists, in order to humanise and market products, are turning names into brands. So, if you’re lucky, you could end up as pretty pot of flowers. If you’re not, as a whip, a vibrating dildo or a toilet brush.”

Renault’s ZOE, which the firm registered as a trade mark when spelled in capitals without the accent on the final “e” found in the French name, is a small zero emissions car due to be released in 2012.

But the families of two girls called Zoe Renault have received the backing of a pressure group, the Association for the Defence of First Names, to fund a legal challenge alleging breach of privacy and identity theft.

**Clinical death’ woman wakes up in French hospital**

A woman pronounced “very certainly clinically dead” at a French hospital woke up hours later after her sons refused to turn off her life-support system, medics and the woman said.

Doctors were preparing cancer patient Lydie Paillard, 60, for a chemotherapy session when she passed out, the director of the Bordeaux Rive Droite private hospital Yves Noel said on Wednesday.

A doctor managed to resuscitate her and put her on a ventilator but then, having consulted other doctors, called Paillard’s sons to break the news that their mother was “very certainly dead”. But her sons would not turn off the respirator and she was then transferred to the university hospital of the southwestern French city where a scan revealed that she was in fact not brain dead, Noel said.

**Spain holds siesta championship**

What is billed as Spain’s first national siesta championship is under way in Madrid to find the best napper and help revive the tradition of taking a snooze after lunch.

Participants are monitored as they lie on bright blue sofas in the middle of a shopping mall for a 20-minute nap. Some wear pajamas; others sport eye masks or cover their faces with their jackets.

They have pulse monitors attached to their bodies and the maximum of 20,000 points is awarded to those who manage to sleep for the full 20 minutes. Sleeping fewer minutes means fewer points but judges also award marks for original sleeping positions, the loudest snore and the most eye-catching outfits.

The competition, organized by the National Association of Friends of the Siesta, began on 14 October and will wrap up on Saturday with the winner awarded a prize of 1,000 euros (1,400 dollars).

“The mission of the championship is to spread the idea that the nap is something of ours that must be defended and practised, because it is healthy and good for everyone,” the association says on its website.

“Being able to do it in public requires having a spirit of a champion and to be a great siesta taker.”

**Couple sue after Mega Death sauce hospitalizes son**

Some don’t like it hot. A Steak ’n Shake restaurant in Cleveland, Tenn., was sued by a couple who claimed it served a hot sauce that sent their son to the hospital.

Tim and Mary Katherine Gann said a restaurant server gave their minor child a bottle of Blair’s Mega Death Sauce for his chili and encouraged him to eat some. When he did, he broke out in hives, had trouble breathing and suffered severe pain.

The brand isn’t customarily served by the chain, according to the Cleveland Daily Banner. Mega Death’s maker warns that it’s “500 times hotter than a jalapeno.”

A spokeswoman for the franchise owner Debbie Richmond said Thursday the company wasn’t commenting.

The lawsuit seeks $10,000 in compensation and $50,000 punitive damages.

**Bollywood looks for Diwali success**

MUMBAI, 22 Oct—Bollywood is gearing up for a slew of new releases over the Hindu festival of Diwali, with expectations high that they will provide some cheer after a lacklustre year at the box office.

At least 10 big films are due to hit the screens in the coming weeks, with hopes of success pinned on the comedy “Golmaal 3” and the time-travel romance “Action Replayy” that will be released on Diwali itself on 5 November.

Like the Christmas period for Hollywood, Diwali has traditionally been seen as a money-spinner for India’s Hindi-language film industry, as studios look to attract the holiday crowd with well-trailed movies featuring big name stars.—Internet

**Van Damme: I’m 100 percent healthy**

NEW ORLEANS, 22 Oct.—Belgian action movie star Jean-Claude Van Damme says he’s “100 percent healthy” despite reports this week claiming he suffered a minor heart attack.

“Hours ago, I read a rumour online about me suffering heart attack!!,” E! News quoted Van Damme as saying on his Facebook page Thursday. “Please, do not believe all what you read from rumours on any unofficial JCVD sites. Jean-Claude Van Damme is 100 percent healthy, training well for taking the fight and sending his fans & friends much love.”

Sources on the New Orleans set of Van Damme’s latest flick “Weapon” told several media outlets the actor was briefly hospitalized this week after suffering a minor heart attack. The reports said he headed home to Belgium after he was released from the hospital.

**Martin Freeman to play lead role Hobbit**

WELLINGTON, 22 Oct.—British actor Martin Freeman from “The Office” will play the lead role of Bilbo Baggins in “The Hobbit”, director Peter Jackson said Friday.

While the production’s shooting location remains uncertain because of an industrial dispute in New Zealand, Jackson said he was pleased to confirm Freeman in the starring role. The Oscar-winning director said Freeman was always his first choice to play the JRR Tolkien character.

“Despite the various rumours and speculation surrounding this role, there has only ever been one Bilbo Baggins for us,” Jackson said in a statement. “There are a few times in your career when you come across an actor who you know was born to play a role, but that was the case as soon as I met Martin.”

**Lively debate after Russian Avdeeva’s Chopin victory**

WARSAW, 22 Oct—Lively debate erupted Thursday in Poland the day after Russian Yulianna Avdeeva won the XVIIth International Chopin Piano Competition, marking the bicentennial of the composer’s birth, in Warsaw.

“This is the biggest surprise in the history of this competition,”

...and journalist Adam Wola, near the Polish capital.

**Internet**

**Russian Yulianna Avdeeva**

launched in 1927, marvellled musicologist and journalist Adam Rozlach.

“This is the Chopin Competition. So far the jury’s decisions reflected the importance, above all, of fidelity to the soul of Chopin. But this year, we chose not Chopin, but Avdeeva, the pianist,” he said, quoted by PAP news agency.

Avdeeva, 25, was the first woman to win in 45 years and the sixth Russian in the history of the competition. The prestigious event takes place once every five years and is dedicated to the 19th century Franco-Polish composer and pianist who was born in Zelazowa Wola, near the Polish capital.

**Internet**

**British actor Martin Freeman from “The Office” will play the lead role of Bilbo Baggins in “The Hobbit”, director Peter Jackson said Friday.**
No resolution in sight over Robben row

BERLIN, 22 Oct — Bayern Munich president Uli Hoeneß admitted on Thursday he no longer believes their disagreement with the Dutch Football Association (KNVB) over Arjen Robben’s injury can be resolved amicably.

Robben will not play any more football in 2010 after damaging his thigh muscle playing for Holland in the World Cup finals and Bayern want some compensation for losing his services.

The matter may now go to court.

In the present state of things, we cannot conclude that they are willing (to pay compensation),” Hoeneß told Munich daily TZ. “I do not think the discussions will give us something.

“Bayern have been hard done by in this matter.”

—Internet

Adebayor treble fires City, Liverpool hold Napoli in Europa League

PARIS, 22 Oct — Emmanuel Adebayor, making a rare start for moneybags Manchester City, scored his first goals of the season on Thursday to secure a 3-1 win over Manchester United.

Lech Poznan and give his club an excellent chance of qualifying from Europe League Group A.

Spoil for choice City boss Roberto Mancini brought in David Silva and Shaun Wright-Phillips and benched Carlos Tevez and James Milner with French veteran Patrick Vieira replacing Gareth Barry — but it was Adebayor who bagged the plaudits as he plundered a fine hat-trick — his club’s first ever in Europe.

“I’m very happy, very delighted — I’m training hard every day,” said Adebayor, keen to feature in a weekend Premier League tussle with former club Arsenal.

—Internet

Angry Man United fans besiege Rooney’s house

MANCHESTER, 22 Oct — Police have dispersed angry Manchester United fans who were besieging the house of superstar Wayne Rooney reportedly in protest at his decision to quit.

Officers were called out late Thursday after a mob of up to 30 supporters descended on the star’s 4.5 million-pound (seven-million-dollar) mansion in Prestbury, close to Manchester.

It came shortly after a meeting at the club failed to resolve the future of Rooney, whose decision to walk away from Manchester United after six years has sent shockwaves through the world of English football.

—Internet

Hat-trick hero Bale pledges future to Spurs

LONDON, 22 Oct — Tottenham midfielder Gareth Bale promised to stay with the Premier League club after earning worldwide attention with a stunning hat-trick in his side’s Champions League defeat against Inter Milan.

Bale netted three times in the second half as Spurs mounted an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to comeback from four goals down in the San Siro on Wednesday and the Wales international’s performance immediately led him to be linked to some of Europe’s biggest clubs.

Spurs’ determination to hang onto their prize asset will be almost certainly tested when the transfer window reopens in January, especially after Inter president Massimo Moratti confirmed his interest in the 21-year-old.

—Internet

We’re still alive, says Liverpool’s Hodgson

NAPLES, 22 Oct — Liverpools manager Roy Hodgson insisted his team was still alive and kicking after they held Napoli to a 0-0 Europa League draw here.

The Reds remained top of Group K with two home matches left and Hodgson believes this result, in a drab stalemate, can give his team the boost they need to climb up the Premier League table.

Liverpool sit second bottom of the 20-team division, kept off the foot only by West Ham’s inferior goal difference.

But ahead of Sunday’s clash with Blackburn, Hodgson said this result was the right tonic.

“We’re going through a very bad passage in the league, things haven’t gone our way for a variety of reasons and that’s why we find ourselves down the bottom and desperate to get away,” he said.

“The new owners have already done a little for the club, they’ve given us a lift.”

—Internet

5 tied for lead in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS, 22 Oct — Robert Garrigus, Will MacKenzie, Michael Letzig, John Senden and rookie Cameron Tringale shot 7-under 64s on Thursday to share the first-round lead in the Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospital for Children Open, the fourth of five Fall Series events.

Colleges McNeill, Nicholas Thompson, Ryan Palmer, Vaughn Taylor and Martin Flores opened with 65s, and John Daly and Davis Love III topped a group at 66.

Hunter Mahan shot a 67 in his first round since the Ryder Cup, and US teammate Rickie Fowler had a 68.

MacKenzie, a two-time winner on the PGA Tour, birdied his first three holes — Nos. 1, 2 and 3 — and made up for a bogey on No. 8 with a birdie on the ninth.

He birdied Nos. 12-14 and 16 on the back nine.

“I got off to such a great start,” MacKenzie said. “I hit a beautiful 5-iron into 6 or 8 feet and made it (on the par-4 third hole). Of course, I started thinking, ‘It’s about time for me to shoot a real low one.’

—Internet

Federer, Soderling sweep to easy Stockholm wins

STOCKHOLM, 22 Oct — Roger Federer, returning to the Stockholm Open after a decade away, swept past outsider American Taylor Dent 6-1, 6-2 in his 900th career match on Thursday.

It took a mere 49 minutes for the top seed to move through, a tennis lifetime after his last appearance at the Kungsholmsallen which ended with a second-round loss.

The 16-time grand slam champion now stands 727-173 for his singles career and becomes the only active ATP player to reach 900 matches.

Second seed Robin Soderling also advanced with ease at the event where he has lost two finals. The Swede beat German Benjamin Becker 6-3, 6-3 in 67 minutes to next play Florian Mayer.

Federer’s comprehensive victory set up a Friday quarter-final with fellow Swiss and Olympic gold medal partner Stanislas Wawrinka.

—Internet

Bayern Munich’s Dutch head coach Louis van Gaal need for points is growing ever urgent.

“Under these circumstances, we have to win,” said van Gaal.

“It is currently more important to win points than to play well.”

—Internet
Ducks take another step with 60-13 romp over UCLA

EUGENE, 22 Oct—None of the top-ranked Oregon Ducks were congratulating themselves after dismantling UCLA, so Bruins coach Rick Neuheisel did it for them.

“That was impressive,” Neuheisel said. “I’ll leave it at that. That was impressive.”

Oregon, celebrating its first outing ever at No. 1, beat the Bruins 60-13 on Thursday night.

Darron Thomas threw for a career-high 308 yards and three touchdowns and Oregon stopped a run of losses for top-ranked teams. Alabama lost to South Carolina two weekends ago and Ohio State lost at Wisconsin last week.

“Let’s come after us,” Oregon linebacker Casey Matthews said.

Oregon running back LaMichael James (21) was (8) mph from Southwestern at (13:30) hours MST on 21-10-2010.

Bay Influence: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the cyclonic storm “GIRI” over the East Central Bay has intensified into the severe cyclonic storm and is moving Northeastwards, it is centered at about (50) miles Southwest of Kyaukpyu.

The centre of storm will cross the land between Sittway and Kyaukpyothu/evening today. Weather is cloudy in the East Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until the afternoon of the 23rd October 2010:

Rain or thunderstorms will be fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan and Kayah and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining States and Regions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Occasional Squalls with rough seas will be experienced Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (70-75) mph along the Rakhine Coast. Seas will be moderate to rough elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook: For subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas: 23-10-2010:

One or two rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas: 23-10-2010:

Some rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Transmissions

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Local Transmission

∴ Opening
* News
* Thadingyut Lighting Festival
* Pa-Auk Forest Monastery & Meditation Centre
* News
* Myanmar’s Traditions and Culture
  * “The Mystique of Shwedagon Pagoda”
  * “The Mystique of Shwedagon Pagoda”
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* Thadingyut Festival of 9000 Lights: Zalun Pyitawpyan Pagoda Glows Bright
* A Journey to Shan plateau
* News
* Never Gloomy Eyes...Ever Blooming Smile
* Oversea Transmission
Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut 1372 ME

Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Cyclone Giri likely to abate into moderate storm

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Oct — The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today issued storm warnings and special storm warnings. According to the observations recorded at 5.30 am today, cyclone Giri is moving towards sea, about 110 miles southwest of Kyaukpyu. The cyclone is likely to become stronger and forecast to cross Rakhine coast between Sittway and Kyaukpyu. The cyclone Giri is now at red level and is forecast to move towards Rakhine coast. When the cyclone moving towards land, wind speed may reach 65 to 70 mph and tidal waves may rise up to 5 to about 8 feet. According to the observations recorded at 9 am today, cyclone Giri continued to move towards sea, about 70 miles southwest of Kyaukpyu. The cyclone is now intensifying and is forecast to cross Rakhine coast between Sittway and Kyaukpyu. The stronger cyclone is now at red level (emergency state) and is moving towards Rakhine coast. The maximum wind speed near its center is about 100 mph and it may reach 120 mph. The cyclone is likely to move northeastward as an inland storm after it crossing over Rakhine coast. According to the observations recorded at 7.30 pm today, cyclone Giri is moving into inland area about 15 miles to the north of Kyaukpyu. Heading northeastwards, it will be crossing Myepon and An townships. As the cyclone is likely to continue to move northwesterns as an inland storm after crossing Rakhine coast, torrential rains is likely to be widespread in Rakhine State, Chin State, Magway Region, Mandalay Region and Sagaing Region. So the people from highlands or slopes and low-lying areas are warned to avert possible dangers of landslides. According to the observations recorded at 10.30 pm today, the storm with its center continues to move to an inland area about 80 miles to the north of Kyaukpyu and is moving northwesterns from near Minbya. It is forecast to abate into a moderate storm within next 12 hours.

The storm warnings and special storm warnings have been continuously broadcast to public on TV, radio and FM radios.

Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee through media issued measures to be taken before, during and after the storm since the time of issuance of storm warnings and warnings for prevention against landslides as soon as it had known that the cyclone was likely to continue to move forward as an inland storm after crossing Rakhine coast.

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Oct — The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations recorded at 10.30 pm today, Cyclone Giri that has crossed Rakhine coast is still centred in a land about 80 miles north of Kyaukpyu at the maximum wind speed of 70 mph. The storm is moving northeastwards near Minbya. It is forecast to abate into a moderate storm within next 24 hours.

Akyitakan villagers’ thirst for knowledge fulfilled

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Oct — Akyitakin villagers in Saw Township of Gangaw District have now access to knowledge bank following the establishment of Aroyu Library in the village on 22 October.

The library funded by the State was constructed under supervision of Saw Township Information and Public Relations Department.

Wellwishers presented 186 books and 11 magazines to the library on the day of inauguration.

Talks on fire prevention held in Tatkon Township

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Oct — Staff Officer U Kyaw Kyaw of Tatkon Township Fire Services Department in Nay Pyi Taw District held talks on preventive measures against fire under School Based Fire Safety Education at No. 1 Basic Education High School in Tatkon Township on 20 October."