In Myanmar, 98.12 percent of all eligible voters cast their ballots, and there has been a constitution approved by 92.48 percent of all the voters. There have been people’s representatives elected through the elections held systematically in accord with the constitution. The Hluttaws at various levels formed with those representatives and a government will emerge soon, and Myanmar will reach the new democratic era.

**Objectives of 63rd Anniversary Independence Day 2011**

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**Four political objectives**

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

**Four economic objectives**

- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

**Four social objectives**

- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

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*SPDC Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses the meeting of the Central Committee for Organizing the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day.—MNA*

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**All national people urged to have greater awareness in warding off all destructive acts to break up Union and national unity**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 7 Dec.—**The Central Committee for Organizing the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day 2011 held a coordination meeting at the hall of the Government Office, here, at 3 pm today, with an address by Chairman of the Central Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo. Also present at the meeting were members of the central committee commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers and departmental heads.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said that the celebration of 63rd Anniversary Independence Day 2011 is a significant ceremony. Five objectives for Independence Day 2011 have been adopted. These objectives are: (a) All the national people to constantly join hands for ensuring the perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State; (b) All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity; (c) All the national people to work in concert for building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic new nation as the multiparty democracy general elections have been held successfully; (d) All the national people to make collaborative efforts with the Union Spirit and the patriotic spirit for further strengthening the already achieved stability and peace, security, prevalence of law and order, unity, development and democratization process with momentum; and (e) All the national people to have greater awareness in warding off all destructive acts to disintegrate the Union and the national unity as the perpetuity of the Union plays a crucial role in building the Union of Myanmar.

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Like putting a small boat in a larger one

In Myanmar, 98.12 percent of all eligible voters cast their ballots, and there has been a constitution approved by 92.48 percent of all the voters. There have been people’s representatives elected through the elections held systematically in accord with the constitution. The Hluttaws at various levels formed with those representatives and a government will emerge soon, and Myanmar will reach the new democratic era.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Strive for promotion of agricultural productive force**

As fully providing agricultural inputs plays an important role, the government has built more fertilizer plants. Of them, No. 4 Fertilizer Plant (Myaungdaga) was inaugurated in Myaungdaga Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon Region, on 5 December.

Construction of the plant started on 23 April 2007 and it commenced production of urea fertilizer in November 2010. The plant located on 266.58 acres of land can produce 325 tons of ammonia and 500 tons of urea fertilizer a day.

The nation’s fertilizer demands will be fulfilled to some extent only when those fertilizer plants including No. 4 Fertilizer Plant (Myaungdaga) can operate at full capacity. For the plants to be able to operate at full capacity, there are two factors on the priority list—employment of skilled workers and smooth running of machinery. It is necessary to conduct training courses both practically and theoretically in order to turn out skilled workers on a constant basis through various ways and means. Repairing and maintenance of the machinery is to be carried out in line with the prescribed procedures for smooth running of works.

In striving for emergence of a modern and developed nation, if strenuous efforts are to be made in various sectors, the whole agricultural productive force will achieve remarkable development in leaps and bounds both quantitatively and qualitatively.

**AVSS Myanmar, a know-all for schooling in Australia**

_YANGON, 7 Dec—AVSS Myanmar assists students pursue their study in Australia to know details on needs for universities chosen, qualification and grading for further studies and changes of immigration policies in Australia. Besides, AVSS Myanmar lends a hand to get easy access to many facilities from the day of joining university._

Those interested may contact AVSS Myanmar (Yangon Branch), at No. (42 D), Boyar Nyunt Street, Dagon Township, Yangon, Ph: 393366, 095147227, 095014334 and AVSS Myanmar (Mandalay Branch) 2/Fa 765, 69th Street between 31st and 32nd Streets in Mandalay, Ph: 02 74291.

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**Storm news**

_NAY PYI TAW, 7 Dec—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced today that according to the observations at 15.30 hrs today, a low pressure area over South West Bay and adjoining West Central Bay has intensified into a depression and it is centred at about 150 miles south of Machilipatnam, India. It is forecast to move north or north-west ward._

The present stage of the depression is coded yellow stage and it is not moving towards Myanmar coasts._

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**State flag for victory presented to universities sports team**

_YANGON, 7 Dec—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint attended the ceremony to hand over State flag for victory to Myanmar Universities Sports Team that will take part in 15th ASEAN Universities Games at Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road here today. The minister said that the athletes are to compete in every sports game with all-out effort keeping spirits of sportmanship as sports is related to dignity of the State and the people._

Next, the minister presented State flag for victory to leader of the team Rector In-charge U Hsan of Dagon University and accepted sports gear for the team.

The contingent comprises 46 athletes and 20 members of coach and manager team.

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**Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe attends donation of aids, arm crutches, crutches to patients**

_YANGON, 7 Dec—Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon attended the ceremony to donate aids and crutches to patients from Yangon Command at Defence Services Orthopaedic Specialist Hospital (500-bed) in Mingaladon Township, Yangon North District._

Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than and officials presented aids to the patients and comforted them. Next, they handed over 30 pairs of arm crutches and 10 pairs of crutches to an official.

Afterwards, an official presented certificate of honour to Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe. Next, an official spoke words of thanks.

Also present on the occasion were the commandant of the hospital and officials.

Later, Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, the commander and officials looked round the hospital and comforted the patients._

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Assembler's Pride 1

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

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**Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint gives State flag for victory to the leader of Myanmar Universities Sports Team.**

_MNA_
**Biting dog diverts Phoenix-bound US Airways flight**

*New York, 7 Dec* — A small dog jumped out of its cage and bit a passenger and a flight attendant on a Phoenix-bound US Airways plane on Monday, forcing the captain to make an emergency landing in Pittsburgh.

The dog’s owner opened the cage despite being told not to, said Valerie Wunder, a spokeswoman for US Airways.

The captain of Flight 522 from Newark to Phoenix, carrying 122 passengers, decided to divert was the 346th member of the British Armed Forces to have been killed in Afghanistan since the 2001 invasion to topple the Taliban.

**Suicide blasts kill 40 in Pakistan’s northwest**

*Peshawar, 7 Dec* — Two suspected suicide bombers killed at least 40 people in an attack at the office compound of a senior government official in an area along Pakistan’s Afghan border Monday, officials said.

“The blasts destroyed many rooms in the compound and our reports are 40 people were killed and many wounded,” a senior security official in the region said.

Amjad Ali Khan, the top government official in the Mohmand Region who appeared to be the target of the attack, earlier told Reuters by telephone that it appeared to be a suicide attack.

“There were two bombers. They were on foot. The first blew himself up inside the office of one of my deputies while the second one set off explosives when guards caught him,” Mohmand is one of the lawless tribal regions in Pakistan’s northwest.

Pakistan’s army has said its offensives have caught him.

**UK soldier in friendly fire incident in Afghanistan**

*London, 7 Dec* — A British soldier might have been killed by friendly fire from a US aircraft while on patrol in southern Afghanistan, Britain’s Ministry of Defence said on Monday.

The unnamed soldier from the 3rd Battalion, the Parachute Regiment, was killed on Sunday while taking part in an operation to find and disrupt insurgents in the Nad-e Ali District of Helmand Province.

“Initial reports suggest that the death was caused as a result of a friendly fire incident,” the ministry said in a statement. “The incident will be the subject of a full investigation however first reports indicate that an attack on an insurgent position by a US aircraft, requested by and agreed with British forces on the ground, may have been the cause.”

The statement said the investigation was under way. The soldier was the 346th member of the British Armed Forces to have been killed in Afghanistan since the 2001 invasion to topple the Taliban.

**Nigeria security forces clash with sect, five dead**

*Maiduguri, 7 Dec* — Nigerian security forces shot dead two suspected members of a radical militants sect in a gunbattle in the remote northeast, and three civilians were killed in the crossfire, police said on Sunday.

The battle is one of the heaviest in the northeastern city of Maiduguri since an uprising by the radical Boko Haram sect last year which led to clashes with the security forces in which hundreds of people were killed. “Two Boko Haram members were shot dead yesterday night in an exchange of fire with the security forces,” police spokesman Lawal Abdullahi said. “Three passengers in a bus that happened to be passing were also killed by stray bullets, while six others sustained injuries,” he said.

A series of attacks in recent months, mostly targeted killings of police officers and local traditional and religious figures, has raised fears that Boko Haram is staging a comeback.

The sect, whose name means “Western education is sinful” in the Hausa language, wants sharia (Islamic law) more widely applied across Africa’s most populous nation, which is roughly divided into a mostly Muslim north and largely Christian south. — MNA/Reuters
China builds theme park in spaceport

WENCHANG, 7 Dec—China is building a science theme park in the middle of its newest spaceport to promote space science among the country’s younger generation. 

The theme park, covering an area of 1,800 mu (120 hectares) in Wenchang City, southern Hainan Province, is located at the Wenchang Satellite Launch Centre. The project is estimated to cost 3 billion yuan (455 million US dollars) and is expected to be finished in 2013, the theme park’s designers said.

Wenchang Satellite Launch Centre, whose construction began in 2007, is planned as the launch pad for China’s lunar probe rocket in 2013.

At the same time, the theme park will have four exhibition sections, featuring the earth, moon, Mars and the sun. Visitors can even enter parts of the launch station and watch the actual rocket launch, theme park construction officials said.

The theme park is being built by China Aerospace International Holdings Limited, a Hong Kong listed arm of the state-owned China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation.

There are currently three space launch sites in China, the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre, the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre and the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre.

Winter birth may affect one’s personality

LOS ANGELES, 7 Dec—Mice born in winter may be more likely to show dramatic disruptions in their biological clocks later in life compared with those born in summer, a new study available here on Sunday suggests.

The finding is the first of its kind in mammals, and could explain why people born in the winter are at higher risk for mental health disorders including bipolar depression, schizophrenia and seasonal affective disorder, according to the study conducted by researchers at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee.

The researchers began their experiment by raising baby mice from birth to weaning (about three weeks) in either “summer” light cycles of 16 hours of light and eight hours of dark or “winter” cycles of eight hours of light and 16 hours of dark.

A third group experienced 12 hours of light and 12 hours of dark a day.

After they were weaned, the baby mice got shuffled into new light cycles. Half of the winter mice stayed in a winter cycle, while half switched to a summer cycle. The summer mice were similarly split. The mice raised in equal periods of light and dark were split into three groups, one of which stayed on the 12-hour schedule, one of which joined the winter group, and one of which joined the summer subset.

But the winter-born mice didn’t react as well to the switch in seasons. Those that stayed in winter kept their 10-hours-on, 14-hours-off schedule. In contrast, those that switched to summer stayed active for an extra hour and a half. The findings showed that light signals could shape the development of the biological clock, study researcher Douglas McMahon, a biologist at the university, said in a statement published by LiveScience.com on Sunday.— Xinhua

Xuelong ship reaches antarctic circle

BEIJING, 7 Dec—The Xuelong ship, on its 27th expedition, has sailed into the Antarctic circle. The vessel and its crew are facing obstacles including icebergs and freezing temperatures.

In the frigid Antarctic waters where the Xuelong is heading, icebergs can reach dozens of metres in height, and hundreds of miles in width.

But the most dangerous aspect of icebergs, is that most of it can’t be seen on the surface. Scientists aboard the Xuelong will use radars to avoid underwater danger. Helicopters on the ship will also find a safer path for the ships. The Xuelong is expected to reach waters near China’s Zhongshan Station in the Antarctic circle in the next 3 days.

Xuelong

Rare albino kookaburras discovered in Australia

CANBERRA, 7 Dec—Australia’s wildlife carers said on Monday they have uncovered a never-before-seen pair of blue-winged albino kookaburras, believed to have been swept from their nests in a wild storm.

According to Harry Kunz from the Eagle’s Nest Wildlife Sanctuary, the six-week-old birds, renowned for their laughing cry, were found waterlogged at the base of a tree by a cattle farmer near Ravenshoe, in far northern Queensland.

Kunz said the pink-eyed, pink-beaked and starkly white creatures, believed to be sisters, are the first specimens of their kind ever found in Australia. The pair were handed into a wildlife carer Leslie Brown said the pair require special care.

“Because they can’t see properly, because of the lack of pigment, they have problems finding food,” she said on Monday. “Because they are so young they still haven’t been taught by their parents how to hunt. They’re being fed mice and chicken and other delicate morsels.”

Brown said it is a once in a lifetime discovery.

“We’ve been in contact with a couple of other zoos that have kept white kookaburras in the past,” she said. At the moment, we can only find that there’s three other white laughing kookaburras held in captivity in Australia.

“But these are the only (albino) blue-winged kookaburras that have ever been recorded in Australia.”— Xinhua

Xuelong

Continental fined 200,000 euros over Concorde crash

PARIS, 7 Dec—A French court fined Continental Airlines 200,000 euros (266,860 dollars) Monday after finding the US carrier “criminally responsible” for a deadly 2000 Concorde crash caused by a piece of metal left on the runway.

The court gave a Continental employee a 15-month suspended jail sentence for the crash in which 113 people died, but acquitted one of his colleagues as well as three French former aviation officials.

Internet

Photo taken on 26 July, 2000, at Gonesse shows part of the nose cone after an Air France concorde crashed during take-off killing 113 people. A French court fined Continental Airlines 200,000 euros (266,860 dollars) after finding the US carrier “criminally responsible” for a deadly 2000 Concorde crash caused by a piece of metal left on the runway.––INTERNET

A panda sits on the tree branches in a panda theme park in Xinjin County, east China’s Anhui Province, on 5 Dec, 2010.—Xinhua


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Xuelong
**VW to 50,000 workers worldwide**

Frankfurt, 7 Dec—Volkswagen, the biggest European carmaker, said Monday in a newspaper that it would hire around 50,000 workers worldwide in the medium-term, including 5,000-6,000 in Germany by 2015.

“We have around 400,000 workers around the world today. With pursued growth in many markets, we could reach a staff of 450,000 in the medium term,” VW personnel director Horst Neumann told the German financial daily Handelsblatt.

“In addition, we will have to replace 60,000 workers in the next five years,” Neumann said as VW negotiates a major work contract with German unions.

**Banknote printer De La Rue confirms takeover bid**

 Reserve Bank of Tonga clerk Selaima Finau displays a one hundred pa’anga note printed by Thomas de la Rue. Banknote printer De La Rue said that it received a takeover approach from an unnamed suitor, sending its shares soaring by a quarter, after weekend reports of a bid from French firm Oberthur.—INTERNET

London, 7 Dec—Banknote printer De La Rue said Monday that it received a takeover approach from an unnamed suitor, sending its shares soaring by a quarter, after weekend reports of a bid from French firm Oberthur.

De La Rue’s share price rocketed 25.56 percent to 813 pence in early Monday London trade, giving the group a market capitalization of 845 million pounds (990 million euros, 1.33 billion dollars).

“De La Rue plc notes the recent press speculation and confirms that it has received a highly preliminary and opportunistic approach,” the firm said in a short statement on Monday.

“There is no certainty that this highly preliminary approach will lead to an offer. A further announcement will be made as and when appropriate,” Oberthur Technologies declined to comment.

Sky News had reported on Sunday that Oberthur had offered 750 million pounds in cash for the British firm.

De La Rue, whose history dates back to 1813, is the world’s largest banknote printer of banknotes and produces currencies for more than 150 countries across the world. The banknote printer, which employs around 4,000 staff in 24 nations, has struggled to overcome the impact of paper production irregularities that hit the company earlier this year.

**Toyota Prius continues run as top-selling car in Japan for 18 straight months**

Tokyo, 7 Dec—Toyota Motor Corp’s hybrid gas-electric powered car continued its run for the 18th straight month as the top-selling car in Japan in November, the Japan Automobile Dealers Association, said in a report on Monday.

Toyota sold 21,400 units in Japan of its world-renown hybrid model, as its ability to switch between electricity and gas power continues to lure customers looking for increased fuel efficiency and lower carbon emissions, the industry bodies said.

Sales of the Prius however fell 20.2 percent from the same month last year due in part to a government subsidy programme for eco-friendly vehicles and technology coming to an end in September, the associations said.

**Johnny Cash jumpsuit fetches $50,000 at auction**

Los Angeles, 7 Dec—A jumpsuit worn by Johnny Cash set off a bidding war before selling for $50,000, soaring past original estimates, during an auction on Sunday of memorabilia owned by the Man in Black.

The blue denim jumpsuit was worn by Cash for a rehearsal at San Quentin prison and shown in the infamous Jim Marshall photograph that depicts him wagging his middle finger into the camera lens.

The final price surged past the sales estimate of $3,000 to $5,000 after bidders made offers over phone and from the gallery, said Julien’s Auctions.

In a 23 May, 1993 file photo, Johnny Cash performs at a benefit concert in Central Park in New York, Cash who was raised on gospel music and turned to religion and Christian music midway through his career, will be inducted into the GMA Gospel Hall of Fame in January, 2011.—INTERNET

**Unified efforts needed to boost e-commerce in the Arab world**

Amman, 7 Dec—E-commerce experts from the Arab world convened in Amman Sunday at the start of the Arab Conference on E-Commerce to look into mechanisms to boost and develop inter-Arab e-commerce.

Participants in the two-day Arab Conference on E-Commerce will discuss obstacles facing e-commerce in the Arab world and look into regional cooperation to develop infrastructure and unify procedures to bolster e-commerce in the Arab countries.

At the opening of the conference, Jordan’s Minister of Information and Communications Technology Marwan Juma said Jordan is working on the implementation of a strategy for the years 2008-2012 to promote e-commerce in the kingdom.

The minister added that e-commerce has become a major supporter of economies, adding that the ministry is working on drawing up required legislation to regulate this type of trading.

In Jordan, the government is working on finalizing a law to promote and encourage e-commerce, according to the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology.
UAE looks to upgrade missile defence systems

ABU DHABI, 7 Dec — The United Arab Emirates is planning to upgrade its missile defence systems and integrate them regionally with other Gulf Arab states to shore up its defences, top military officials said on Sunday.

The six oil exporting Gulf states — worried about potential retaliatory strikes by Iran in the event of US or Israeli military action against Teheran — have been spending billions of dollars on the latest defence systems.

Leaked US diplomatic cables last week cited some Gulf leaders worries about Iran’s nuclear programme with, most notably, Saudi King Abdullah urging Washington to attack Iran’s nuclear sites and “cut off the head of the snake.”

Three dozen countries possessed ballistic missiles half of whom were in Asia or the Middle East, Major-General Mohammed Suhail al-Kaabi, Deputy Chief of staff of the UAE Armed Forces, said at a military conference.

“The threat of attack of long-range ballistic missiles is real. We must be prepared to defend our people, nation and region against any threat,” he said. He did not name the countries, but two military officials at the conference in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE, cited countries such as Iran, Israel, India and Pakistan.

“There is a high concentration of theatre ballistic missiles (in the region) that can cause significant damage,” Brigadier General Mohammed Murad al-Baloushi, commander of UAE Air Force & Air Defence Operation Centre, said. He said the UAE therefore needed to equip itself with the latest missile systems.

MNA/Reuters

Iran says now “self-sufficient” in entire fuel cycle

TEHERAN, 7 Dec — Iran announced what it called a major step forward in its nuclear programme on Sunday, showing determination to pursue it a day before talks in Geneva with world powers which fear Teheran may be seeking atom bombs.

Nuclear energy chief Ali Akbar Salehi said Iran would use domestically produced uranium concentrates, known as yellowcake, for the first time at a key nuclear facility, cutting its reliance on imports of the ingredient for nuclear fuel.

“This means that Iran has become self-sufficient in the entire fuel cycle,” Salehi said.

Salehi told a televised news conference that the announcement meant “we will be taking part in the negotiations with strength and power.” He said the Geneva talks were for the benefit of the other countries, not Iran.

“We want to create a graceful solution out of the political deadlock for those who have pressed us.”

Iran says its nuclear programme is aimed at power generation while the West suspects Teheran seeks weapons capability, and has tightened sanctions on the Islamic state in recent months.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan orders arrests of police in Butto case

ISLAMABAD, 7 Dec — A Pakistani anti-terrorism court has ordered the arrest of two senior police officers on allegations they failed to provide adequate security for former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto before her 2007 assassination, a prosecutor said on Sunday.

Bhutto’s assassination was one of the most shocking events in Pakistan’s turbulent history and remains shrouded in mystery.

“The court has issued warrants and these are non-bailable. They can be arrested anytime,” special prosecutor Chaudhry Zulfiquar Ali told Reuters.

“I argued that they were responsible for Bhutto’s security and they failed to make foolproof security arrangements and they ordered the crime scene to be hosed down despite resistance from other officials.”

Court officials were not immediately available for comment. Ali named the two police officials as Saud Shengzhou, whose sales incomes have reached 20 billion yuan ($3 billion US dollars).—XINHUA

Small plane crashes in neighbourhood in Utah City

ROY, 7 Dec — A small plane crashed into some trees Sunday in a northern Utah City, causing an explosion that set two homes ablaze, police said.

The pilot was severely hurt but no one on the ground was injured. The Cessna 210 was attempting a landing in fog at the Ogden-Hinckley Airport in Roy when it crashed about 6 pm, police Sgt Darin Calcutt said.

“The runway was about three blocks away,” Calcutt said. “It was pretty heavy fog.” Roy City Fire Chief Jon Ritchie said the aircraft clipped a power line and crashed, causing a blast that started two nearby homes on fire. Officials said the fires had been extinguished.

INTERNET

A model presents a creation during a fashion show of silk costumes in Shengzhou City, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 27 Nov, 2010. There are more than 1,700 silk product enterprises in Shengzhou, whose sales incomes have reached 20 billion RMB yuan.

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Firefighters work at the scene of a plane crash in Roy, Utah on 5 Dec, 2010. Wreckage of the plane appears to be on the lawn in the left and right of the frame.

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INTERNET

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Maj-Gen Myint Soe attends opening of Alaungmintaya U Aung Zeya Statue in Shwebo

The Chairman of Shwebo District Peace and Development Council reported on construction of the statue.

Officials formally opened the statue. Maj-Gen Myint Soe unveiled the bronze plaque on biography of the U Aung Zeya and sprinkled scented water on it.

Maj-Gen Myint Soe and party viewed the statue, and bronze plaque on records of 11 kings in Konbaung Dynasty.

At the local battalion in Shwebo, they looked into cultivation tasks and met servicemen and families.

They inspected storage of water at Maha Nanda Lake and greening tasks around the lake in Shwebo.

Maj-Gen Myint Soe oversaw condition of Shwebo-Kyaunkyaung Road Section, construction of approach road to Yadanahteinga Bridge and construction tasks on Kyaunkyaung and Singu banks.

At the hall, he heard reports on facts about the bridge construction project presented by an official.

Maj-Gen Myint Soe inspected construction of Shwebo-Sagaing road section of the inter-district road, building of bridges along the road, undertakings of rural development and cultivation of cold season crops.

At the hall of local battalion, he met servicemen and families and presented foodstuffs and gifts to them.

Winners in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2009 announced

Nav Pyi Taw, 7 Dec—Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Scrutiny Committee today announced the names of winners and their manuscripts that grasped prizes in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2009 which was organized by Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information.

In the novel genre, first, second and third prizes went to Thu Then, Ko Yaw and Thein Zaw (Shwe Li Oo) respectively. In the selected short stories genre, first, second and third prizes went to Khaing Khaing Khin, Khaing Maung Su and Tin Hjaung Hnaw. In the drama genre, first, second and third prizes went to Tin Myint Hlaing, Thein Win and Thein Tin. In the translation genre, first, second and third prizes went to Myint Aye, Myint Aye and Dr Cho Cho Nat. In the other genre, first, second and third prizes went to Myo Nyi Min, Tin Maung and Ko Hlaing. In the literature genre, first, second and third prizes went to Ko Hlaing, Ko Hlaing and Ko Hlaing. In the children’s literature genre, first, second and third prizes went to Hlaing Htay Aung, Ko Khaing Aung and Ko Hlaing. In the bellas-lettter genre, first, second and third prizes went to Sai Myo Tin, Sai Myo Tin and Sai Myo Tin. In the arts genre, first, second and third prizes went to Sai Myo Tin, Sai Myo Tin and Sai Myo Tin. In the arts genre, first, second and third prizes went to Sai Myo Tin, Sai Myo Tin and Sai Myo Tin. In the youths genre, first, second and third prizes went to Ko Hlaing, Ko Hlaing and Ko Hlaing. In the bella-lettter genre, first, second and third prizes went to Sai Myo Tin, Sai Myo Tin and Sai Myo Tin. In the arts genre, first, second and third prizes went to Sai Myo Tin, Sai Myo Tin and Sai Myo Tin. In the youths genre, first, second and third prizes went to Ko Hlaing, Ko Hlaing and Ko Hlaing.

The participants may take their manuscripts back that did not clinch awards in person or with letter of authority within six months after announcing lists of prize winners.

Those wishing to compete in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2010 may enroll before 31 January 2011. For those residing in other states and regions, the entrance form and rules of book are available by remitting K 200. According to word limits for respective genres prescribed in the rules of book, participants are to take part in the competition.

MNA

EP-1 Minister visits Shwegyin Hydropower Project

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min accompanied by departmental heads visited Shwegyin Hydropower Project being implemented by No. 4 Construction near Kyaukmyaung Village, six miles northeast of Shwegyin, yesterday morning.

Officials reported on progress of the project and construction tasks. Director-General of Hydropower Implementation Department U Myint Zaw gave a supplementary report.

The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the project. The minister viewed installation of electrical equipment at generators.

He also looked into storage of water in the dam and installation of ganty crane bam at the main spillway.

Shwegyin Hydropower Project has completed by 96.65 per cent. On completion, four generators will generate 262 million kilowatt-hours yearly. No. 4 generator of the project will generate electricity soon.—MNA

STI to conduct workshop on ECTBW 18,19 Dec

Yangon, 7 Dec—With supervising of the experts at home and abroad, the STI will conduct the workshop on “Effective Communication in Today’s Business World” at Room-7 of Building-4 in Myanmar Info-Tech, Hlme Township here on 18 and 19 December.

The winners are to contact the secretary of the committee at Sarpay Beikman at 529/531 on Merchant Street in Yangon (Ph: 01-381448) within one week. The prizes will be awarded at the ceremony to present the Life-time Achievement for National Literary Award and National Literary Award for 2009 at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information here at 9 am on 29 December (Wednesday).

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MNA

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 8 December, 2010

8-12- 2010 NL.pmd 12/8/2010, 2:47 AM
Like putting a small boat in a larger one

The State is like a large boat. It must have a government like the captain, the administrative machinery like the boatmen, party organizations like the navigator, people like the passengers, economic forces like the rudder and the sails and economic infrastructures like the hull. Only with these characteristics plus concerted efforts, can the boat reach its destination smoothly. According to a political term, working harmoniously with the characteristics of a nation means being politically united.

However, like putting a small boat in a larger one, committing an act in opposition to the state machinery of a nation by going contrary to the existing laws and rules of that nation can spark political instability. If so, it means acting outside the framework of the constitution.

In the international community, political parties engage in political affairs within the constitutional framework. Those individuals working for a certain ambition cannot be called politicians but activists. A group of those individuals is usually called the interest group. It is not a political party. Such a group does not act for political power and minds its own business.

Getting involved in political activities for power outside the framework of constitution causes confusions and chaos. Moreover, there can be barriers and disturbances such as opposition to and confrontation with the activities of State organizations.

This is why political forces that really want to serve the national interest form political parties and run for elections within the framework of constitution in order that they can realize their ambitions in a stable and correct way. Accepting the people’s choice, they serve their country as people’s representatives. If they are not elected, they do not lose morale and are best-prepared for next elections. Democratic countries with such a firm system can enjoy political stability and do their best for national development.

For some developing countries, they are unable to work for national development on the grounds of acts done outside the framework of constitution even before solidifying the democratic foundations. In some neighbouring nations, there broke out unrest and violence by those wearing colour shirts, commotion and bloodshed. There were also some countries that experienced political and economic losses due to the general strike as their political issues were not addressed within the parliament.

In Myanmar, 98.12 percent of all eligible voters cast their ballots, and there has been a constitution approved by 92.48 percent of all the voters. There have been people’s representatives elected through the elections held systematically in accord with the constitution. The Hluttaws at various levels formed with those representatives and a government will emerge soon, and Myanmar will reach the new democratic era.

In such a transitional period, there is no doubt peace and stability is of utmost importance. There is an English saying that goes by ‘Don’t rock the boat’. But like in a Myanmar saying ‘The mad monk and the tossed boat’, if there is any ill intention to rock the boat, there may be some repercussions in the country.

In reality, today’s situation of Myanmar is very sensitive and delicate. If there is any attempt to rock the boat by seeking own interest and ideology without considering the objective conditions of the nation and the long-term interests of own group and nation, the whole boat will break into pieces and sink completely. So, it is necessary to be aware of such danger.

In the international community, political parties engage in political affairs within the constitutional framework. Those individuals working for a certain ambition cannot be called politicians but activists.
All national people urged to have greater awareness...

(from page 1)

all destructive acts to disintegrate the Union and the national unity as the perpetuity of the Union plays a crucial role in building the Union of Myanmar. The Secretary-1 instructed responsible persons of the subcommittees to coordinate the tasks for successfully organizing the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day.

Secretary of the Central Committee Director-General U Thant Shin of the Government Office reported on formation of subcommittees.

Chairman of the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony Organizing Subcommittee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Secretary of Independence

Day Reception and Dinner Subcommittee Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Security Subcommittee Chief of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Chairman of Information Subcommittee Director-General U Khin Maung Huy of Myanmar Radio and Television, Chairman of Health Subcommittee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, and Chairman of Sports Competitions Subcommittee Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department submitted reports on their future tasks.

The participants discussed general matters related to the ceremony.

Later, the Secretary-1 coordinated the reports and gave concluding remarks. MNA

Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win on inspection tour of Kawthoung District

NAY PYI TAV, 7 Dec—Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Khin Maung Hlay and officials visited local battalions in Khamaukkyi and Santhita Stations on 4 December.

He looked into thriving oil palm plantations along Kawthoung-Bokpyin Road and road works. He also inspected maintenance of Khamaukkyi-Kawthoung Road.

At the local battalions in Kyauktanung Station, he viewed agriculture and livestock breeding tasks and staff quarters.

At the construction site of Chaunggya Bridge, he heard reports on progress of tasks presented by officials. He visited the local battalion in Karathuri Station.

At the nursery of South Dagon oil palm cultivation company, he heard reports on nurturing oil palm plants.

Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win visited Crude Palm Oil Mill of the company and attended to the needs. MNA

Figures of multiparty democracy general elections...

(from page 16)

| (bb) valid votes | 20865161 |
| cc number of cancelled and lost ballots | 1555962 |
| (dd) percentage of cancelled and lost ballots | 6.94% |
| (2) Amyotha Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of voters | 22283465 |
| (bb) valid votes | 20851078 |
| (cc) number of cancelled and lost ballots | 1433287 |
| (dd) percentage of cancelled and lost ballots | 6.43% |
| (3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races) | |
| (aa) number of voters | 21863123 |
| (bb) valid votes | 20245157 |
| (cc) number of cancelled and lost ballots | 1617966 |
| (dd) percentage of cancelled and lost ballots | 7.40% |
| (e) standing of candidates for elections | |
| (1) Pyithu Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of candidates | 989 |
| (bb) number of candidates representing political parties | 949 |
| (cc) number of independent candidates | 40 |
| (dd) percentage of candidates representing political parties | 95.96% |
| (ee) percentage of independent candidates | 4.04% |
| (2) Amyotha Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of candidates | 479 |
| (bb) number of candidates representing political parties | 472 |
| (cc) number of independent candidates | 7 |
| (dd) percentage of candidates representing political parties | 98.54% |
| (ee) percentage of independent candidates | 1.46% |
| (3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races) | |
| (aa) number of candidates | 1601 |
| (bb) number of candidates representing political parties | 1566 |

| (cc) number of independent candidates | 35 |
| (dd) percentage of candidates representing political parties | 97.81% |
| (ee) percentage of independent candidates | 2.19% |

| (f) election of candidates | |
| (1) Pyithu Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of candidates representing political parties | 949 |
| (bb) number of representatives-elect representing political parties | 324 |
| (cc) percentage of elected candidates | 34.14% |
| (2) Amyotha Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of candidates representing political parties | 472 |
| (bb) number of representatives-elect representing political parties | 167 |
| (cc) percentage of elected candidates | 35.38% |

| (g) election of independent candidates | |
| (1) Pyithu Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of independent candidates | 40 |
| (bb) number of elected independent candidates | 1 |
| (cc) percentage of elected candidates | 2.5% |
| (2) Amyotha Hluttaw | |
| (aa) number of independent candidates | 7 |
| (bb) number of elected independent candidates | 1 |
| (cc) percentage of elected candidates | 14.29% |
| (3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races) | |
| (aa) number of independent candidates | 35 |
| (bb) number of elected independent candidates | 4 |
| (cc) percentage of elected candidates | 11.43% |
Poland cold weather death toll climbs to 52

WARSAW, 7 Dec—Five Poles died from exposure to cold overnight, bringing the death toll to 52 since the start of the cold weather season last month, the Government Security Centre said on Sunday.

A spokesman for the centre said 37 people had died of exposure to cold so far in the first five days of December. Fifteen died in November. Most of the victims were homeless seeking shelter in unheated abandoned buildings or garden sheds, and many were under the influence of alcohol.

So far this season the coldest weather was recorded in north-eastern Poland’s Bialystok area bordering Lithuania and Belarus, where air temperatures reached minus 27 degrees Celsius and ground temperatures were as low as minus 32.

XINHUA

Car in Italy ploughs into cycling team, kills seven

ROME, 7 Dec—A car driven by a man without a licence and who had been using illegal drugs ploughed into a team of amateur cycle racers in southern Italy on Sunday, killing seven and injuring several others, police said.

The dead were men ranging in age from 35 to 58 practicing on a road in the southern region of Calabria.

Two other members of the local amateur racing team were seriously injured.

The driver, a Moroccan immigrant, was arrested and charged with multiple manslaughter.

Police said blood tests showed the man, who was himself hospitalized for injuries, was under the influence of marijuana. They said he was driving illegally because his licence had been withdrawn six months ago for dangerous driving.

MNA/Reuters

Pirates seize Bangladeshi ship off Indian coast

DHAKA, 7 Dec—Pirates have hijacked a Bangladeshi-flagged ship in the Arabian Sea off the coast of India, Bangladesh shipping officials said on Sunday.

“The pirates embarked on board after chasing MV Johan Moni in the Arabian Sea on Sunday,” a senior official at the Bangladesh Shipping Department (BSD) said.

“We have sought help from anti-piracy teams in Dubai and Singapore, and Indian coast guards,” Rear Admiral Bazlut Rahman, head of the shipping department told Reuters, without giving further details.

The BSD, an arm of the ministry of shipping, monitors and regulates external shipping and ferry services. Another BSD official said: “The ship has been captured by the pirates.”

The 16-crew ship owned by a Bangladeshi shipping firm was heading towards Europe with merchandise from Singapore, the BSD said. No other details about the ship were available immediately.

Somali pirates are making tens of millions of dollars in ransoms from seizing ships in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden, though Sunday’s hijack happened around 3,000 kilometres (1,864 miles) east of Somalia.

MNA/Reuters

Chavez blames capitalism for deluges

CARACAS, 7 Dec—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez blamed “criminal” capitalism on Sunday for global climate phenomena including heavy rains that have killed scores and left tens of thousands homeless in Venezuela and Colombia.

In Venezuela, at least 32 people have died and 70,000 have been forced out of homes in recent days, especially on the coast where mudslides have topped structures in hillside slums. In neighbouring Colombia, the toll is higher, though over a longer period, with 170 dead and 1.5 million homeless. That figure looked set to rise after a mudslide on Sunday in northwest Colombia that buried dozens of homes with at least 50 to 60 people inside, according to a local official.

In Venezuela Chavez has taken personal charge of rescue operations, giving 25 families refuge in his presidential palace and ordering space to be made for others in ministries, army barracks and even a Caracas shopping mall.

“The calamities we are suffering with these cruel and prolonged rains are yet more evidence of the unfair and cruel paradox of our planet,” the socialist leader said.

MNA/Reuters

Snow shuts Edinburgh Airport

LONDON, 7 Dec—Snow and freezing temperatures grounded all flights at Scotland’s busiest airport on Monday while forecasts warned more wintry weather was on the way.

Airline officials at Edinburgh Airport said all flights have been cancelled until 2 pm (1400 GMT). Passengers travelling from the airport were hit last week when heavy snowfall forced it to close on Thursday and severely disrupted flights for the rest of the week.

The smaller Inverness airport in northern Scotland will also remain closed until 12 pm (1200 GMT), a spokeswoman said.

Britain, which last year shivered through its coldest winter in 30 years, has not seen such widespread early snowfall since 1993, closing thousands of schools and causing travel chaos up and down the country. Parts of the country enjoyed a relative thaw over the weekend with temperatures in London reaching 6C (43F).

But Met Office forecasters said more snowfall was expected in Scotland and Northern Ireland and could also reach northern England later on Monday.

MNA/Reuters

The organizer receives the Guinness record certificate for the largest helium balloon cluster in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 5 Dec, 2010. —XINHUA

Barbara Morel (L) waves as she celebrates being crowned Miss Nationale in Paris, on 5 December, 2010. The self-styled doyenne of decorum, 78-year-old Genevieve de Fontenay (R), has set up a rival pageant against current Miss France owners, a reality TV company, which she accuses of cheapening the contest. —XINHUA

Xu Xiaoying (C), soprano of Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra, sings at the concert hall of the National Academy of St Cecilia in Rome, Italy, on on 5 Dec, 2010. Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra on a European tour held a concert in Rome on Sunday, marking the Chinese Culture Year in Italy and the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Sino-Italian diplomatic ties.
Scientists find protein that may help control prostate cancer

LOS ANGELES, 7 Dec — A protein that regulates prostate stem cell self-renewal and also plays a role in the transformation of healthy cells into prostate cancer cells has been identified by US scientists.

The findings, which involve the Bmi-1 protein, could prove important in efforts to find ways to control cancer growth and progression, according to the research team, from the University of California, Los Angeles. Previous research had found that Bmi-1 is associated with higher-grade cancers and is predictive of poor patient outcomes. But until now, its role in prostate stem cell maintenance and prostate cancer have not been clear. The UCLA study was conducted using cells and laboratory animals.

“We conclude that Bmi-1 is a crucial regulator of self-renewal in adult prostate cells and plays important roles in prostate cancer initiation and progression,” study senior author Dr Owen Witte, director of the Broad Stem Cell Research Centre at UCLA, said in a university news release. “It was encouraging to see that inhibiting this protein slows the growth of even a very aggressive prostate cancer because that could give us new ways to attack this disease,” he added.

The study was published online 2 Dec in Cell Stem Cell.

Four rescued after dramatic airborne ditch in Gulf

NEW ORLEANS, 7 Dec — With his engine failing, the pilot of a single-engine plane managed to maneuver the craft and three passengers to a safe splashdown in the Gulf of Mexico on Saturday. Federal Aviation Administra- tion spokesman Lynn Lunsford said the pilot of the Piper Malibu reported engine trouble around 2 pm Saturday, and the plane began to descend rapidly from about 26,000 feet. The flight had left Cozumel, Mexico, on its way to New Orleans. The pilot’s ability to make radio contact with air-traffic controllers in Houston became spotty as he descended, and his last report to them came a few minutes before the craft hit the water. Commercial jets in the area helped relay visual information and some radio messages that made it to them but not to Houston. One Delta Air Lines pilot went off course to keep an eye on the small plane, Lunsford said.

After gliding for about 25 minutes, the Piper Malibu splashed down near an oil rig about 175 miles southeast of New Orleans. A boat from the rig picked them up, and they were later taken to shore by a US Coast Guard helicopter.

Lunsford said the pilot and three others appeared to be in good condition but were taken for a checkup at a New Orleans hospital as a precaution. Lunsford said a safe water landing is a difficult maneuver.

Bus driver may have had heart attack

PUTNEY, 7 Dec — The driver of a tour bus that rolled over with 44 college students aboard Friday was hospitalized in Vermont, authorities said on Saturday. All 17 college students injured in the crash had been treated and released from hospitals, The Boston Globe reported.

State police Sergeant Michael Sorensen said he saw “clear patterns of dirt,” but no indication that the driver applied the brakes as the tour bus crossed the median of Interstate 91 near Brattleboro, Vt, before rolling over in a crash that involved no other vehicles.

One of the University of Massac- husetts Amherst students said the driver went limp and slouched forward before the accident, while others said he had suffered a heart attack.

The bus was one of eight carrying students to a ski trip in Quebec, Canada, Friday. Joseph Schoppy, the owner of Tour World, which operates the buses, said the injuries sustained by the students “seem very minor,” CNN said.

Greek police find suspected guerrilla arms cache

ATHENS, 7 Dec — Greek police located a cache of guns and explosives believed to belong to leftist urban guerrillas in a central Athens apartment on Saturday. The weapons include seven handguns, three machine guns, boxes of bullets, grenades, 50 kilograms of an explosive mixture and 200 grams of TNT. “We suspect the findings to be linked to the Rebel Sect group or the Fire Conspiracy Cells. We will know when ballistics tests are completed if any of the guns have been used in prior attacks,” said a police official who did not want to be named.

The two groups have been responsible for a variety of attacks in recent years, including the killings of a policeman and a journalist by the Rebel Sect. Police said more searches were being conducted in other suspect locations in Athens and Thessaloniki in northern Greece as part of the operation. Greece has a decades-long history of leftist violence and some groups have sprung up or become more active since December 2008, when the killing of a teen-ager by police triggered three weeks of rioting and attracted global attention.

The Rebel Sect emerged in February 2009 in a gun and grenade attack on an Athens police station. Weeks later, two hooded gunmen fired dozens of shots at a TV station in southwestern Athens, causing no injuries. In June 2009, the Rebel Sect claimed responsibility for the killing of a Greek anti-terrorism policeman in Athens, who was shot several times at close range. In similar fashion it gunned down a journalist in July this year. The Fire Conspiracy Cells initially staged arson attacks but turned to bombings last year. Their devices usually contain small amounts of explosives, not enough to kill.

Eighty-two-year-old Zhao Yufang stretches her leg in the residential compound she lives in Beijing, capital of China, on 4 Dec, 2010. Zhao created herself a unique body exercise combining Yoga, Wushu or martial arts, and Qigong or breathing exercise in her sixties, and three hours of daily practice over years has granted her with good fitness.
Grassland fire kills 22 in southwestern China

BEIJING, 7 Dec—At least 22 people have died after a grassland fire they were fighting in southwestern China turned and trapped them. The official Xinhu News Agency says the 22 were among more than 2,000 people fighting the raging fire on Sunday in Sichuan Province. It says three others were badly injured.

The provincial website says 15 soldiers and two government workers died. The other five who died were civilians. The website said the fire was under control as of late Sunday as winds subsided. It did not say what caused the blaze. —Xinhua

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Azerbaijan confirms bird flu outbreak in its west

TBILISI, 7 Dec—Azerbaijani authorities have confirmed a bird flu outbreak in western regions of the country where poultry farms have already reported numerous deaths from the disease.

Deputy Health Minister Elsever Aghayev said that the state veterinary service confirmed that the bird flu virus was found in one of the blood samples sent from the west Azerbaijani region of Samukh.

The country’s environment minister imposed a month-long ban on bird hunting after the outbreak was confirmed, according to reports reaching here on Saturday. Health officials are advising people to take precautions against the possible spread of the virus, which migrating birds can spread from other countries. —Xinhua

Europe’s struggles make blue chip stocks cheap

NEW YORK, 7 Dec—This is a good time to make money off of someone else’s misfortune.

One of the best, but rarely followed, rules of investing is to buy when things look bleak. Blue chip stocks in the euro zone are down 5.5 percent since it became clear in mid-April that Greece needed help to prevent it from defaulting on its debt. Some economists speculate that the bailouts of Greece and Ireland mean that the euro won’t last much longer.

Investors are waiting to see whether the European Central Bank takes additional steps this week to prevent Europe’s financial crisis from spreading to Spain and Italy. That uncertainty has created stock bargains. You may not find the same parade of once-in-a-lifetime deals as during the 2008-2009 financial crisis when General Electric Co traded as low as $7.06 (it closed at $16.78 on Friday). —Internet

Balkan floods kill three, cause major damage

SARAJEVO, 7 Dec—Heavy rain in the Balkans has killed three people, forced the evacuation of around 20,000 from inundated areas and caused more than 340 million euros (450.8 million US dollars) in damage, officials said on Monday.

Three family members were killed when a landslide hit their house in the northeastern Bosnian town of Tuzla on Sunday. A total of 4,000 people have been evacuated in Bosnia so far.

Flooding in nearby Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Croatia appears to have caused more damage than high waters in January, adding to the woes of budgets already under strain from the economic crisis. But hydro-electric power plants were producing at top levels.

Milorad Dodik, president of the Serb Republic entity that makes up Bosnia along with the Muslim-Croat federation, said flooding this year in the region has led to losses of around 500 million Bosnian marka (250 million euros). Flooding by the Drina River is the worst seen in the last 100 years, authorities said.

Patients were sent home from a hospital in the eastern Bosnian town of Gorazde because its heating system broke down amid power outages. Residents of the town of Skoder in northern Albania could reach their homes and get supplies only by boat, with pavements at the entrance of town turned into a pier.

Fearing epidemics from rising, sewage-laced waters, authorities were disinfecting parts of Gorazde and pressed villagers unwilling to leave their homes and livestock to join 14,000 people already evacuated. —MNA/Reuters

Berlin floods kill three, cause major damage

The New Light of Myanmar, Wednesday, 8 December, 2010

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The accident occurred on Saturday night just before Canadian teen idol Justin Bieber was to appear on the show, prompting him to say on his Twitter account: “Please pray for Samuel Koch & his family as we wait and hope for his health and safety.”

Koch’s stunt may have gone terribly wrong because the special shoes he was wearing for the jump, featuring a suspension system, malfunctioned.

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Milorad Dodik, president of the Serb Republic entity that makes up Bosnia along with the Muslim-Croat federation, said flooding this year in the region has led to losses of around 500 million Bosnian marka (250 million euros). Flooding by the Drina River is the worst seen in the last 100 years, authorities said.

Patients were sent home from a hospital in the eastern Bosnian town of Gorazde because its heating system broke down amid power outages. Residents of the town of Skoder in northern Albania could reach their homes and get supplies only by boat, with pavements at the entrance of town turned into a pier.

Fearing epidemics from rising, sewage-laced waters, authorities were disinfecting parts of Gorazde and pressed villagers unwilling to leave their homes and livestock to join 14,000 people already evacuated. —MNA/Reuters

Berlin floods kill three, cause major damage

BERLIN, 7 Dec—A live broadcast of a popular German game show was halted after a contestant was severely injured while trying to jump over a moving car driven by his father.

The accident occurred on Saturday night just before Canadian teen idol Justin Bieber was to appear on the show, prompting him to say on his Twitter account: “Please pray for Samuel Koch & his family as we wait and hope for his health and safety.”

Koch’s stunt may have gone terribly wrong because the special shoes he was wearing for the jump, featuring a suspension system, malfunctioned.
Birthday cake for Germany’s favourite polar bear

BERLIN, 7 Dec—Knut, Germany’s favourite polar bear, has celebrated his 4th birthday with a lavish party at his zoo attended by about 250 people. Fish and meat were served in the polar bear’s snow-covered, outdoor enclosure at the Berlin Zoo on Sunday, followed by a birthday cake shaped like the number 4.

As Knut gobbled up his cake, the spectators sang “Happy Birthday” to him, the German news agency DAPD reported.

The visitors also were given the rare opportunity to feed Knut, and he seemed to enjoy the bread, fruit and fish they brought for him. Knut has been a star in Germany since he was born in March 2006. He now weighs 450 kilograms and is the world’s only healthy of his species.

Washington, 7 Dec—Researchers studying the health effects of cellphones say they have found evidence that when pregnant women use them regularly, their children are more likely to have behavioural problems.

The study, sure to renew controversy over the safety of mobile telephones, does not demonstrate that cellphone use causes the behavioural problems and does not suggest a possible way that they could. But the researchers say their findings are worth checking out.

“It is hard to understand how such low exposures could be influential,” Dr. Leela Kheifets, an epidemiologist at the University of California Los Angeles who led the study, said in a telephone interview. “It is just something that needs to be pursued.”

Kheifets and her team looked at data from 28,000 7-year-olds and their mothers who took part in a large Danish study that has been tracking 100,000 women who were pregnant between 1996 and 2002.

Children whose mothers used the phones but who did not themselves use mobile phones were 40 percent more likely to have behavioral problems, they found.

They found the children were no more likely to have epilepsy or delays in development.

Misbehaviour

London, 7 Dec—China is set to become the world’s most important centre for innovation by 2020, overtaking both the United States and Japan, according to a public opinion survey to be published on Monday.

China is already the world’s second-largest economy, after establishing itself as the global workshop for manufacturing. Now it wants to move up the value chain by leading in invention as well.

Today, the United States ranks as the world’s most innovative country, with 30 percent of people surveyed taking that view, followed by Japan on 25 percent and China on 14 percent.

Fast-forward 10 years, however, and 27 percent of people think China will be top dog, followed by India with 17 percent, the United States 14 percent and Japan 12 percent, according to the survey of 6,000 people in six countries done by drugmaker AstraZeneca.

The shift is not because the United States is doing less science and technology, but because countries like China and India are doing more — a fact reflected in a spike-up in successful Asian research efforts in recent years.

A study last month from Thomson Reuters showed China was now the second-largest producer of scientific papers, after the United States, and research and development (R&D) spending by Asian nations as a group in 2008 was 387 billion US dollars, compared with 384 billion US dollars in the United States and 280 billion US dollars in Europe.

The survey across Britain, the United States, Sweden, Japan, India and China found a strong sense of optimism amongst people living in China and India, in contrast to relative pessimism in the developed Western economies.

Netanyahu, Abbas hold rare phone chat over fires

JERUSALEM, 7 Dec—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas expressed condolences in a rare telephone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Saturday over the deadly fires raging in northern Israel, Israeli officials said.

The two leaders were not believed to have spoken since they last met in September when US-backed peace talks stalled in a spat over Jewish settlement construction.

A statement from Netanyahu’s office said Abbas “expressed his condolences to the people of Israel on those who died in the fire and said he would be happy to provide any necessary help.”

In the conversation described as “warm and friendly,” Netanyahu replied that “neighbours should always help each other.”

Netanyahu also suggested he would put a fleet of firefighter planes he has plans to establish “at the disposal of” Israel’s Arab neighbours, the statement said.— MNA/Reuters

Study links cellphones to child misbehaviour

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec—Researchers studying the health effects of cellphones say they have found evidence that when pregnant women use them regularly, their children are more likely to have behavioural problems.

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They found the children were no more likely to have epilepsy or delays in development.

“The really saves money, though I haven’t calculated the exact amount,” Qiu says.

“It doesn’t take much time. I only need to water them occasionally.”

In Fuzhou of Fujian Province, a number of migrant workers used the phones in the suburbs of the city who are using waste compactors to grow vegetables as they do not have land to do so, the China News Service reported.

Xinhua

INTERNET

Home-made food from the pot

BEIJING, 7 Dec—More Chinese consumers say they are growing vegetables at home in response to rising prices and food safety issues.

Prices of major types of vegetables grew 10.1 percent in October from those in September alone, figures from the National Development and Reform Commission showed.

“Vegetable prices have been going up, especially in recent months. Quite a number of my neighbours have started to grow vegetables at home,” said a retired Shanghai resident surnamed Qiu.

Qiu, who lives on the ground floor of an apartment block and has a garden, started to grow chili, towel gourd, cucumber and spring onion this summer.

“A resident, surnamed Jia, in Shenyang of Northeast China’s Liaoning Province, waters his vegetables at his home on 23 Nov.”

Xinhua

Two winners from the Miss Asia Pageant 2010 final held in Hefei, east China’s Anhui Province, on 5 Dec, 2010. (Photo: Xinhua)

Miss Asia 2010 winner Wang Xin (C), 1st Runner-up Vita Tybulska (R) and 2nd Runner-up Liu Xiaozhi pose during the Miss Asia Pageant 2010 final held in Hefei, east China’s Anhui Province, on 5 Dec, 2010.— Xinhua
Barcelona trio on shortlist for FIFA award

BARCELONA, 7 Dec—Three Barcelona players — Andres Iniesta, Xavi and Lionel Messi — have been shortlisted for the 2010 FIFA Ballon d’Or award.

Iniesta and Xavi played for Spain’s victorious World Cup team, while Messi played for Argentina in South Africa.

The winner will be announced in Zurich on 10 January.

Last year the trophy went to Messi for his outstanding play at Barcelona.

World governing body FIFA released a first shortlist of 23 players in October with seven members of Spain’s World Cup winning squad in the running for the prestigious Player of the Year award.

Late Maggio strike stuns Palermo

30 seconds before the end of injury time to keep Napoli a 1-0 victory. — Internet

ROME, 7 Dec—Christian Maggio scored deep into injury time to give Napoli a 1-0 victory at home to Palermo at the San Paolo in Naples on Monday night.

After a largely tame affair, Maggio pounced.

Jol quits Ajax amid Newcastle rumours

THE HAGUE, 7 Dec—Former Spurs boss Martin Jol on Monday quit as coach of Dutch fallen giants Ajax, who said they had accepted his resignation.

As Frank De Boer, assistant to national coach Bert Van Marwijk, prepared to take over on a temporary basis, news of Jol’s decision fuelled rumours in England that he was in line to take over from English Premier League side Newcastle.

The Magpies had earlier on Monday sacked Chris Hughton despite the promoted side being in midtable.

“There was no longer sufficient basis to pursue fruitful collaboration,” said Jol, sacked at Spurs three seasons ago and who had a stint with Hamburg in Germany before joining Ajax at the start of last season. — Internet

Maple Leafs rally in 3rd, beat Capitals in SO

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec—Mikhail Grabovski scored the lone shootout goal and the Toronto Maple Leafs rallied from three goals down in the third period to beat the Washington Capitals 5-4 on Monday night.

Jonas Gustavsson was perfect in the tiebreaker, making Grabovski’s goal stand up as the winner. Grabovski skated in on Michael Neuvirth, pivoted in front of the crease and, with his back to the net, scored with a backhanded shot at the right post.

Washington carried a 4-1 lead into the third period, but Grabovski, Tim Brent and Clarke MacArthur all had goals to get the Maple Leafs even. Brent and MacArthur scored 59 seconds apart, with MacArthur tying it 4-4 with 1.24 left in regulation.

Mathieu Perreault had his first career two-goal game for Washington. Alex Ovechkin and Mike Knuble also scored. The Capitals matched a season high with their third straight loss. — Internet

No happy return for Houllier as Liverpool beat Villa

LIVERPOOL, 7 Dec—Liverpool ensured there would be no happy return for former manager Gerard Houllier as they beat the Frenchman’s Aston Villa side 3-0 in the Premier League here on Monday.

Two goals in the space of three first-half minutes from David Ngog and Ryan Babel all but settled the match in Liverpool’s favour before Maxi Rodriguez added a third 10 minutes into the second half. Victory saw Liverpool move up into eighth place in the table, 10 points behind leaders Arsenal.

For Villa, defeat meant the Midlands club remained just two points above the relegation zone and Houllier said going behind so early in the match had been a shattering blow to his team.

“I cannot fault the players for the effort, they tried hard. When you concede a goal after 12, 13 minutes at Anfield it’s hard to come back. It’s a shame because I thought we could have done something here today.”

And the Frenchman added Villa’s league position was a worry, saying: “We are concerned. The players and the staff have to take things in our hands.”

Tevez dismisses talk of Mancini ‘rift’

MANCHESTER, 7 Dec—Carlos Tevez has insisted all is well between himself and Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini, saying the situation at Eastlands is no different from other clubs.

City captain Tevez reacted angrily, and appeared to argue with his Italian boss, after he was substituted late on having scored the only goal in the 1-0 Premier League win at home to Bolton on Saturday.

The big-spenders may be fourth in the table, just three points behind leaders Arsenal, but the Tevez-Mancini row did little to suggest all was well at Eastlands, coming as it did a day after Jerome Boateng and Mario Balotelli had to be pulled apart at training.

“It is just like any club,” Argentine striker Tevez, who has scored 10 goals so far this season, told City’s website.

Belgraders celebrate Serbia’s Davis Cup victory

BELGRADE, 7 Dec—More than 1,000 people, mostly young, braved the cold on Monday, gathering in front of the capital’s City Hall to celebrate Serbia’s Davis Cup victory over France this weekend.

Waving Serbian flags and carrying placards with photos of the players, young Belgraders noisily welcomed “Serbia’s heroes” who greeted them from the balcony of the City Hall.

“I was here when I won tournaments, but now, with my friends from the national team, it is more important,” world number three Novak Djokovic told the crowd. — Internet

A Serbian tennis fan poses behind a heart painted with national colours during a celebration. — Internet

Woods has reason to look ahead

THOUSAND OAKS, 7 Dec—The first sign that something was different about Tiger Woods came during the pro-am.

After getting the yardage to the green on the par-5 13th hole — 282 yards — he pulled a 3-wood from his bag and asked a small group standing behind him, “Can I get there with this?”

“Eventually,” came one reply. Woods smiled, tried to disguise a frustrated gesture by scratching the side of his leg, then set up over the shot and drilled it.

The ball never left the flag, cleared the bunker and settled some 30 feet behind the green.

His caddie, Steve Williams, looked on with a straight face.

“Shots like that have been rare this year,” several more followed.

When it was suggested to Tiger he was playing his best on Wednesday, Woods again answered solemnly, “He’s done a lot of work since Australia.”

Tiger Woods shakes Graeme McDowell, left, of Northern Ireland, head after he won the Chevron World Challenge. — Internet

Late Maggio strike stuns Palermo: Christian Maggio, pictured in June 2010, scored deep into injury time to give Napoli a 1-0 victory. — Internet

Tevez dismisses talk of Mancini ‘rift’: Argentine striker Carlos Tevez. The big-spenders may be fourth in the table, just three points behind lead- ers Arsenal, but the Tevez-Mancini row did little to suggest all was well at Eastlands, coming as it did a day after Jerome Boateng and Mario Balotelli had to be pulled apart at training.

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A Serbian tennis fan poses behind a heart painted with national colours during a celebration. — Internet
Economy is making steady gains despite weak hiring

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec — The economy is starting to fire on almost every cylinder these days but the one that matters most: Job creation. Factories are busier. Incomes are rising. Autos are selling. The holiday shopping season is shaping up as the best in four years. Stock prices are surging.

And many analysts are raising their forecasts for the economy’s growth. Goldman Sachs, for instance, just revised its gloomy prediction of a 2 percent increase in gross domestic product in 2011 to 2.7 percent and forecast 3.6 percent growth for 2012. “The upward momentum has more traction this time,” says James O’Sullivan, chief economist at MF Global. If only every major pillar of the economy were faring so well.

Despite weeks of brighter economic news, employers still aren’t hiring freely. The economy added a net total of just 39,000 jobs in November, the government said Friday. — Internet

WEATHER

Tuesday, 7th December, 2010
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, weather has been partly cloudy over the remaining States and Regions. Night temperature were (3°C) to (4°C) above previous day. December average temperatures in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, (5°C) to (6°C) above December average temperatures in Chin, Mon States and Upper Sayaung Region and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperature were Haka (4°C) and Pinyaung (5°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfalls was Kawthoung (1.77) inches.

Nay Pyi Taw
Maximum temperature on 6-12-2010 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 7-12-2010 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-12-2010 was (83%). Rainfall on 7-12-2010 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)
Maximum temperature on 6-12-2010 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 7-12-2010 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-12-2010 was (74%). Total sunshine hours on 6-12-2010 was (8.2) hours. Rainfall on 7-12-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (82.76) inches at Mingaladon, (96.34) inches at Kaba-Aye.

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule
(8-12-2010)(Wednesday)

Transmissions Times
Local - (09:00am ~ 11:00am) MST
Oversea Transmission - (8-12-10 09:30 am ~ 9-12-10 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission
* Opening
* News
* Caves of Myanmar
* News
* Awesome Services of Sky Net
* News
* Songs for you
* News
* Creative Expert in Myanmar
  ‘The life of a Movie Director’

Oversea Transmission
* Opening
* News
* Caves of Myanmar
* News
* Awesome Services of Sky Net
* News
* Songs for you
* News
* Creative Expert in Myanmar
  ‘The life of a Movie Director’
* News
* Kyauk Tong: Town in the beautiful Valley
* Thiri Zeya Buhmi Bagan Golden Palace and Museum of King Anawrahta
* News
* Working & Living in Myanmar (Tourism)
* Music Gallery
* News
* Photography: The Art of framing the Nature
* News
* Orchids Research from Mount Pora
* Myanmar Movie ‘Pure Love’
**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**

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**People’s Desire**

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

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**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**

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### Figures of multiparty democracy general elections for respective hluttaws announced

**Nay Pyi Taw, 7 Dec**—The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 143/2010 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

**The Union of Myanmar**  
**Union Election Commission**  
**Nay Pyi Taw**  
**Notification No. 143/2010**  
**1st Waxing of Nadaw, 1372 ME**  
**(7 December, 2010)**

**Announcement on figures of multiparty democracy general elections for respective hluttaws**

1. The Union Election Commission simultaneously held the multiparty democracy general elections in 325 constituencies out of 330 constituencies of Pyithu Hluttaw, 168 constituencies of Amyotha Hluttaw, and 661 constituencies out of 673 constituencies of Region or State Hluttaws (including 29 constituencies for national races) in the Union on 7 November 2010, and has announced all representatives-elect of respective constituencies for the hluttaws.

2. The Union Election Commission submitted the report on completion of the general elections held in line with the Election Law and Rules to the State Peace and Development Council on 3-12-2010 according to the respective election rules-106 for carrying out ongoing tasks in accord with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

3. The figures of the multiparty democracy general elections of respective hluttaws that the people should know are announced as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holding Elections</th>
<th>Pyithu Hluttaw</th>
<th>Amyotha Hluttaw</th>
<th>Region or State Hluttaw (including national races)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) designated constituencies for election</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) constituencies where elections were held</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(cc) percentage of holding elections</td>
<td>98.48%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>98.22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Casting votes</th>
<th>Pyithu Hluttaw</th>
<th>Amyotha Hluttaw</th>
<th>Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) number of eligible voters</td>
<td>29021608</td>
<td>29021608</td>
<td>28534216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(bb) number of voters</td>
<td>22421123</td>
<td>22283465</td>
<td>21863123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(cc) percentage of casting votes</td>
<td>77.26%</td>
<td>76.78%</td>
<td>76.62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valid votes</th>
<th>Pyithu Hluttaw</th>
<th>Amyotha Hluttaw</th>
<th>Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) number of voters</td>
<td>22421123</td>
<td>22283465</td>
<td>21863123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(bb) valid votes</td>
<td>20865161</td>
<td>20851078</td>
<td>20245157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(cc) percentage of valid votes</td>
<td>93.06%</td>
<td>93.57%</td>
<td>92.60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of cancelled and lost ballots</th>
<th>Pyithu Hluttaw</th>
<th>Amyotha Hluttaw</th>
<th>Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) number of voters</td>
<td>22421123</td>
<td>22283465</td>
<td>21863123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(See page 9)