First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues for seventh day

Information, knowledge and entertainment programmes provided

Depending on progress of the nation, the government increased salaries of the personnel and pensions and allowed extra cash assistance and living allowance
Beware of fire

In hot and dry season, fire can break out at any time, so it is necessary to take greater awareness in systematic use of fire.

In outbreaks of fire, people lost housing and property that they had saved for many years. Only when, everybody uses fire systematically, will they be free from danger of fire.

The Department of Fire Services has disseminated knowledge about danger of fire to the people and given talks on awareness and fire preventive measures. In addition, personnel of the department has demonstrated fire fighting drills and inspected systematic use of fire at homes.

In February 2011, fire broke out 107 times across the nation including 83 times of negligence, 15 times of natural fire, five times of electric shock, two times of arson and two times of forest fire.

Due to negligent and unsystematic uses, outbreak of negligent fire was the largest numbering 107.

Outbreaks of fire occurred as some people were weak in following the fire preventive warnings.

The number of outbreak of fire was highest in Mandalay Region, followed by Yangon Region. At present, fire preventive measures are being taken with momentum in rural areas so as to prevent outbreaks of fire in villages.

As such, all the people are to constantly beware of danger of fire, to systematically use the fire and to take preventive measure. So they can save lives and property, and financial resources of the State and help ensure peace and tranquility in both urban and rural areas.

15708.8 acres of poppy plantation destroyed

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 March—A total of 15021.75 acres of poppy plantation was destroyed from 1 September 2010 to 27 February 2011.

So far, altogether 15708.8 acres of poppy have been destroyed as more 687.05 acres of poppy was destroyed in States and Regions from 28 February to 6 March.

The destroyed poppy acres from 28 February to 6 March include 502.5 acres of poppy in Mongphyat, Monghsat, Mongton, Mongping, Momeik, Mongton, Namkham, Katkai, Namsang and Lashio Townships in Shan State and 183.25 acres of poppy in Waingmaw and Tanai Townships in Kachin State plus 1.3 acres of poppy in Tunzan Township in Chin State. — MNA

48th Myanma Gems Emporium kicks off in Nay Pyi Taw

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 March—The 48th Myanma Gems Emporium, organized by Central Committee for Organizing Myanma Gems Emporium, is being held at Maw Yadanar Jade Hall near Myanma Gem Museum up to 22 March, selling jade lots through tender system and 30 pearl lots through competitive bidding system, totaling 255 pearl lots from 11 to 12 March, system and 50 gem lots, through competitive bidding system on 13 March, 16926 jade lots—16601 jade lots through tender system and 325 jade lots through competitive bidding system from 14 to 22 March.

Over 7000 merchants—more than 3000 local merchants and about 4000 foreign merchants from 20 nations—observed pearl lots, gems lots and jade lots till this evening. It was supervised by Secretary of Central Committee for Organizing the Emporium Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and members.

More Gem merchants from home and abroad will arrive here to attend the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.

Central Committee for Organizing Myanma Gems Emporium kicks off in Nay Pyi Taw

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More Gem merchants from home and abroad will arrive here to attend the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.

Myanmar Gazette

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 March—The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the appointment of Director-General U Aye Ko of Cooperative Department of the Ministry of Cooperatives on expiry of the one-year probationary period.— MNA

Items on sale at the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium are 225 pearl lots through tender system and 30 pearl lots through competitive bidding system, totaling 255 pearl lots from 11 to 12 March, system and 50 gem lots, through competitive bidding system on 13 March, 16926 jade lots—16601 jade lots through tender system and 325 jade lots through competitive bidding system from 14 to 22 March.

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16 wounded in bomb attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 10 March—A total of 16 people were wounded when five roadside bomb explosions ripped through Iraq’s capital on Thursday morning, an Interior Ministry source said.

Five people were wounded in a roadside bomb blast in Baghdad’s central District of al-Ghazaliyath, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, a roadside bomb detonated near a police patrol on a highway that passed through Doura District in southern Baghdad, wounding four policemen, the source said.

Another roadside bomb explosion hit a police patrol in Baghdad’s western District of al-Ghazaliyath, wounding three policemen, the source added. In southeastern Baghdad, a policeman and two civilians were wounded when a roadside bomb struck a police patrol in al-Zaafaranah District, he said.

A fifth roadside bomb went off at a liquor store in Baghdad’s central District of Karrada, wounding a civilian and badly damaging the store, he added. Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continue in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease of violence over the past few years.—Xinhua

Iraq halts oil exports over bomb attack on pipeline

Mosul, 10 March—Militants blew up a major oil pipeline in northern Iraq, halting the country’s oil exports via Turkey, a police source said on Wednesday.

The attack took place on Tuesday night when gunmen bombed the oil pipeline near the area of al-Hatra, some 280 km north of Baghdad, the source from Nineveh Province told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The blast struck the largest pipeline that conveys crude oil from the town of Baiji heading north to Turkey and then to its port of Ceyhan on the Mediterranean Sea, the source said.

“Announcing the sabotage did not cause fire at the scene but only resulted in an oil leak, prompting authorities to halt the oil pumping,” the source added.

The oil pumping is expected to be resumed in three days after repairing the damage, he said.

Iraq’s oil pipelines have been frequently attacked and sabotaged by insurgents since the US-led invasion in 2003. —Xinhua

Suicide car bomb hits Nangarhar Province, east of Afghanistan

KABUL, 10 March—A suicide car bomber attack occurred Wednesday night local time in Nangarhar Province, east of Afghanistan, targeting the vehicles of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force, according to a spokesperson of the provincial administration.

“A suicide car bomber attack occurred around six pm local time, with the NATO-led ISAF vehicles as its target,” Abdullazai said, adding that the incident is under investigation.

No groups has claimed responsibility for the attack yet.

Nangarhar Province has witnessed an increasing militant activities of anti-government militants recently.

In the latest string of militant in Nangarhar, a bomb blast rocked the Afghan eastern town Jalalabad in Nangarhar on 7 March, leaving two dead and over two dozen others injured.—Xinhua

Nine Iraqis wounded in bomb attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 10 March—Nine Iraqis were wounded in two bomb explosions in the Iraqi Capital, including one targeting a US patrol on Wednesday, an Interior Ministry source said. A roadside bomb struck a US patrol after midday in the crowded area of Bab-al-Mu’adham in downtown Baghdad, damaging a US military vehicle and wounding four civilians, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The source could not confirm whether any Iraqi soldiers sustained casualty as US troops sealed off the scene.

The US military has not further stepped on the gas to stop the vehicle even though the suspected robbers fired at them and wounded its driver Roger Fuentes, 46. Bungawi was onboard Rural Transit bus, which was then carrying 50 passengers, when it was attacked at about 1:15 am along Maria Clara National Highway in Zamboanga del Sur, City Police director Senior Supt. Edwin de Ocampo said. Bus driver Roland Castillo did not stop the vehicle even though the suspected robbers fired at them and wounded its driver Fuentes on his left leg.

The victims were identified as Mildred Bungawi, 45, and truck driver Roger Fuentes, 46.

An explosion in downtown Kabul Afghanistan recently.

Afghans say a bomb has exploded in a crowded intersection in downtown Kabul but there were no reports that anyone was killed. Internet

Two hurt as gunmen attack bus, truck in S Philippines

MANILA, 10 March—Two persons were injured after suspected highway robbers ambushed a passenger bus and a cargo truck in Southern Philippines early Thurs- day morning.

The victims were identified as Mildred Bungawi, 45, and truck driver Roger Fuentes, 46. Bungawi was onboard Rural Transit bus, which was then carrying 50 passengers, when it was attacked at about 1:15 am along Maria Clara National Highway in Zamboanga del Sur, City Police director Senior Supt. Edwin de Ocampo said. Bus driver Roland Castillo did not stop the vehicle even though the suspected robbers fired at them and wounded its driver Fuentes on his left leg.

The victims were brought to the hospital for treatment.
US shuttle Discovery lands in Florida, concluding flying career

WASHINGTON, 10 March—US space shuttle Discovery landed safely at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida on Wednesday, ending its nearly 27-year flying career as the world’s most-traveled spacecraft.

According to NASA, Discovery touched down at 11:57 am EST (1657 GMT) after a 13-day resupply mission to the International Space Station (ISS). “For the final time: wheels stop,” Discovery’s commander Steven Lindsey called out as the shuttle rolled to a full stop.

Discovery lifted off on 24 Feb from the Kennedy Center and arrived at the space station on 26 Feb. During the mission, the astronauts installed a spare closet module on the space station, completed some important repairs and delivered the first humanoid robot, though it will need more time to be assembled and made operational.

The 330-pound R2 consists of a head and a torso with two arms and two hands. Once it is unpacked—likely several months after its arrival at the station—it will initially be operated inside the Destiny laboratory for operational testing, but over time both its territory and its applications could expand.

Apple Java patch kills 27 bugs, some critical

WASHINGTON, 10 March—Alongside the release of iOS 4.3, which injected some Nitro into Safari’s JavaScript engine, Apple has shipped a Java security update for both Mac OS X Leopard and Snow Leopard, Security Watch reports.

The update patches no fewer than 27 vulnerabilities, including an exploit through which hackers could hijack your Mac by running an attack code.

Apple declined to say how the vulnerabilities might be exploited to “execute arbitrary code”; however, the patch, the first since last fall, ought to be considered a critical download. Not all versions of Mac OS X are equally vulnerable. The patch plugs 16 vulnerabilities in Java SE 6 and another 11 in Java SE 5 for Leopard (OS X 10.5) users, whereas the update for Snow Leopard (OS X 10.6) addresses only 16 bugs in Java SE 6.

The Java SE 6 update mirrors Oracle’s security update issued last month. While the con-sumer electronics giant has committed to sup-porting Java in Leopard and Snow Leopard, Apple has “deprecated” the Java runtime, warning developers not to rely on it and instead announcing that it would contribute to Oracle’s OpenJDK open-source project.

Gmail ‘Smart Labels’ separate e-mail into new folders

WASHINGTON, 10 March—Google on Wednesday unveiled a new option for Gmail that filters messages into bulk, forum, or notification folders. Smart Labels are a Gmail Labs project that sorts incoming e-mails into three sections: bulk, which applies to mass mailings like newsletters and announcements; forums for group mailing lists; and notifications for e-mails sent directly to you.

Users can replace existing filters and labels with Smart Labels or use them together. To add, enable the “Smart Labels” option in Gmail Labs and hit save. You can further edit your settings on the Filters tab under Settings. “We hope Smart Labels help you more effortlessly get through your inbox,” Google said in a blog post.

New sea satellite system helps South Africans combat piracy

JOHANNESBURG, 10 March—In order to combat piracy and to improve maritime safety, South African authorities have begun using a sophisticated navigation satellite system, it was announced on Tuesday.

Piracy, especially by Somalis, has been increasing along Africa east coast in recent years. The South African Press Association (SAPA) reported on Tuesday that Karl Otto, head of the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) announced the surveillance tool at a conference in Durban. Called Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT), the system monitors and tracks vessels in waters south of the equator.

Otto said the introduction of the LRIT followed concerns over the safety of seafarers, the safety standards of ships within South African waters.

“Otto said the satellite system has the capacity to identify and track vessels up to 1,000 nautical miles (1,850 km) from the South African coastline as well as South African-flagged vessels anywhere in the world.”

Banana peels can clean water of toxins

SAO PAULO, 10 March—Banana peels, useful in polishing silverware and leather shoes, may have another “cleaning” ability as a water purifier, Brazilian researchers say.

Scientists funded by the Sao Paolo Research Foundation say minced banana peels performed better than a number of other purification materials in removing potentially toxic metal contamination from water, an article in an American Chemical Society journal reported Wednesday.

Mining processes, runoff from farms and industrial wastes can all put heavy metals into waterways, researchers Gustavo Castro and colleagues say. Current purification methods are expensive and some substances used in the process are toxic themselves, the researchers say.

Previous work has shown some plant wastes, such as coconut fibers and peanut shells, can remove these potential toxins from water. The researchers found minced banana peel quickly removes lead and copper from river water as well as, or better than, many other materials, and a purification system made of banana peels can be used up to 11 times without losing its metal-binding properties.
Secretary-1 attends opening of 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium, unveils Mani Yadana Jade Hall

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March—A ceremony to open the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium was held in conjunction with the inauguration ceremony of Mani Yadana Jade Hall near the Myanmar Gems Museum, here, at 7.20 am today, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present on the occasion were Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, ministers, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, departmental heads, vice-chairs, members of the Central Committee for Organising the Myanmar Gems Emporium, responsible persons of the subcommittees, Patron U Aung Ko Win, Chairman U Tay Za and Executive Committee members of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association, local and foreign gems merchants, commercial counselors of the embassies of the People’s Republic of China and Thailand, and guests.

Members of the Panel of Patrons of the Central Committee Commander Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and Chairman of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association U Tay Za formally opened the emporium.

The Secretary-1 opened the Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

They viewed display of jewellery and jade on the first floor of the hall.

The Secretary-1 and party viewed documentary videos on the Myanmar Gems Emporiums and successful completion of the 2010 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium for the first time in Nay Pyi Taw, and construction process of the Gems Museum, Jade Garden and Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

The Secretary-1 and party left there in the morning after viewing presentation on wearing of Myanmar belles with jewellery ornaments from the shops of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association.

The 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium will take place at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near the Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw from 10 to 22 March.

Over 500 local gems companies will participate in the emporium. Over 5,000 foreign gem merchants from 20 countries have been invited to attend the emporium. It was reported that about 4,000 foreign gem merchants and over 3,000 local gem merchants will attend the emporium. Preparations have been made for convenience of local and foreign gem merchants in accommodation, meals, transport and Internet connection.

The newly-opened Mani Yadana Jade Hall is built on 21.42 acres of land, and the facility is 1520 feet long and 620 feet wide. The three-storey RC & Steel structure building is 550 feet long, 460 feet wide and 110 feet high. The total areas of basement, ground and first floors are 239,425 square feet. The building was constructed by Htoo Trading Co.

The basement is constituted with office, safe room, clinic, canteen, kitchen and staff quarters. The ground floor is formed with reception, hall, office, computer room and signing room. The first floor comprises meeting hall, rest room for special guests, and venues to be displayed with jade lots and pearl lots.

The 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium is the second such emporium in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Stabilo brand colour pencils available

YANGON, 10 March—Salient Trading Co., Ltd is distributing high-quality Stabilo brand colour pencils for artists. Ten kinds of Othello Graphite pencils—4H, 3H, 2H, H, HB, F, B1, B2, B3, and B4 are available. Most high-quality Stabilo All colour pencils available in eight kinds of colour can be used in drawing on any surface. Artists and those who are studying paintings may choose any kind of colour out of 18 Stabilo Trio Thick colour pencils. Fibre-tip pens are also available in two kinds—Stabilo trio A-Z and stable power. For more information, contact Salient Trading Co., Ltd, No.22, Ngweh road, Sawyanpaing (South) ward, Ahlon Township, Yangon (Ph:225110 and 703165, and Fax:210782).—MNA

5.4 magnitude quake jolts Myanmar-China Border Region

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March—A moderate earthquake of magnitude (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Myanmar-China Border Region) 230 miles Northeast of Mandalay Seismological observatory was recorded at 11 hrs 31 min 20 sec M.S.T this morning. Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.—MNA
First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw...

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leading team led by the director of the division. Depending on the subjects, the division requests the remarks on the manuscripts from the ministries concerned. If not, the final decision is to be taken from the Minister for Information. Due to scrutiny and work procedures, the division takes adequate time if necessary.

The above-mentioned manuscript was referred to the Attorney-General’s Office and the Supreme Court to check whether the work is in line with legal and judicial affairs. The minister replied that after the opinion and remarks from ministries concerned have been achieved, the division will issue permission in accordance with the press scrutiny policies.

U Kyi Myint of Latha Constituency raised a question whether news announcement and educative programmes of Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information can be also presented through sign language.

With regard to the question, Minister U Kyaw Hsan replied that, the Union of Myanmar is home to over 60 million people. The Ministry of Information is supervising various types of media and information and education. In the print media sector, five newspapers, 170 journals, 182 magazines are being published daily, weekly and monthly. Over 300,000 copies of newspapers are in circulation per day, 9 million copies per month and 108 million copies per year. Journals and magazines are published not less than 40 million copies per year. Moreover, over 4 million copies of over 4,000 books are published yearly.

Broadcasting of Myanmar Radio, national race language radio, Psalmyay Radio and seven FMs cover the whole nation from 5.30 am to 11 pm daily.

Likewise, MRTV, Myawady, Channel-4 and 30 related TV channels, and 38 SkyNet TV channels are telecast across the nation. Some channels are on air round the clock. Myanmar International Channel (MI) is also broadcasting progress of Myanmar to the world through English language round the clock. Therefore, Myanmar people are on a par with the global people in enjoying information, knowledge and entertainment programmes.

With regard to the question on additional broadcasting with sign language raised by U Kyi Myint of Latha Township Constituency, the minister replied that most of the Asian countries including ASEAN member nations do not broadcast their programmes through sign language. Some countries simultaneously broadcast important news and speeches on the main screen with the small box at the corner of screen through sign language.

Among over 60 million people in the nation, there are 140,000 deaf and dumb persons according to the statistics focused by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. Of them, over 360 persons have completed the sign language course.

Over 500 students are attending two deaf and dumb schools for the children that are providing sign language to the students. The SWRR Ministry is implementing the work plans on national level disabled persons for development of deaf and dumb persons.


At an opportune time, the TV channels, news and education programmes will be broadcast for deaf and dumb persons through sign language.

Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Nambkam Constituency asked if there is a plan to increase salaries of State service personnel and pensions.

Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun replied that the government has been focusing on the increase of salaries of State service personnel since post-independence period after 1948. Pay scale and wages of State service personnel were raised and temporary living allowance and extra cash assistance permitted in 1972, 1976, 1981 and 1988.

Moreover, pay scale, pensions and wages of the personnel were increased in 1989, 1993 and 2000. Again, the pay scale and wages of the staff were raised in 2006 and 2010. Depending on the progress of the nation, the government increased the salaries of the personnel and pensioners and allowed extra cash assistance and living allowance.

During the period from 1988 to 2010, the pay scales were raised once for 4-6 years on average with a view to ensuring welfare of personnel in service and retired staff.

To increase salaries of staff and pensioners, it is necessary to calculate inflation rate, circulation of money in the nation, GDP and currency situations of neighbouring countries.

The method of raising the salaries of staff is not enough to reduce bribery. It is necessary to give educative talks that bribery can tarnish prestige and images of staff individually, of departments concerned and of the State. And, deterrent action will be taken against the offenders in a bribery cases. Moreover, the people are to participate in organizing the personnel to avoid bribery.

Next, the session was stopped for a while.

When the session resumed, the submitting proposals, discussing and resolving on whether or not proposals should be discussed were carried out at the session.

Three Hluttaw representatives discussed the motion that when a region or state could not handle the catastrophe caused by a natural disaster, the Union government has to declare the region or state as a disaster-hit region and provide direct assistance for rescue and rehabilitation tabled by U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency. (See page 7)
First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw...

(from page 6)

In his discussion, U Thein Swe of An Constituency said that generally, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar does not face as many natural disasters as other countries. However, natural disasters hit the nation several times in the past. At present, disasters struck throughout the world due to climate change, and experts forecast that more natural disasters can fall across the world.

To be able to encounter the unexpected natural disasters, it is necessary to adopt short-term and long-term plans on preparations for minimizing loss and wastage. Especially, the entire people are to actively participate in emergency rescue and relief works and rehabilitation under the systematic management when the natural disaster comes.

Possible natural disasters we could face are climate change, earthquake, Tsunami, epidemic of diseases on human and animals, a large influx of insects and mouse and dangers of chemical, industry, radiation sickness and fires.

Natural disaster causes losses and damages such as loss of lives and properties, likelihood, crops and rations, equipments used in daily life running, buffaloes and cows. And it caused damages to buildings, health and education sectors and roads and bridges, nature of arable land, source of drinking water and cause epidemics.

At a time when there are widespread damages in the regions, Union Government may announce these regions as disaster-hit areas, and will need to carry out rescue and rehabilitation directly.

Under the notification No.14/2005 issued by the State Peace and Development Council on 25-1-2005, the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee was formed with the Prime Minister as chairman, the Secretary-1 of the SPDC as vice-chairman and 11 members. The committee has 9 duties and powers. The paragraph (d) clearly states that "to give directives concerning declaration on emergency situation in the natural disaster-hit areas and taking security measures enlisting the strengths of the Tatmadaw in addition to Myanmar Police Force".

It is obvious that assignment of duties to the Prime Minister as Chairman of the Committee is the government has farsightedness and places much emphasis on natural disaster and the people. And every observer knows that there are few governments and countries that assign such kind of duty to the Prime Minister.

Central, Region, State, District and township-level natural disaster preparedness committee were formed, and duties have been assigned to them.

As a result, the Nargis-hit regions have seen better-than-before condition in a short possible time. Rescue and rehabilitation tasks have achieved success, and other countries took a good example of Myanmar.

In addition, the government has formed the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee, National-level Committee for Natural Disaster Management, Ministerial Coordination Committee for Natural Disaster Management, Region and State Natural Disaster Management Committee, Management Committee of the Ministries, and announced ordinance for natural disaster management including detailed duties in January 2009. Region/state/district/township-level natural disaster management committee were formed and duties assigned to them.

Now, the State is carrying out rescue and rehabilitation tasks nationwide by paying serious attention even to normal dangers.

According to the State Constitution, Union Government, Region and State Governments have been formed. Region and State governments have many experiences. And they have been provided with equipments and systematic drill, carried out. Although storm Giri was strong, the death toll was a bit low. The reason was that warning was issued two days ahead before storm Giri hit the region and precautions were systematically carried out. The Union Government announced the region as disaster-hit area and carried out reuse and rehabilitation tasks directly.

National Disaster Preparedness Committee has been tasked with powers by the government. So, the Union Government announces regions where there are severe natural disasters as natural disaster-hit regions, and should assist in carrying out rescue and rehabilitation tasks directly.

In his discussion, U Win Than of Thabang Constituency said that not only the natural disaster directly-hit areas but also the indirectly-hit ones should be put under the legal protection. Thabang Township has suffered from bitter impacts caused by recent cyclone Giri. If the various areas of the Union do not turn a blind eye to the disaster-hit area, they can forge the Union Spirit in the hearts of the disaster-hit victims. He seconded the motion that when a region or state could not handle the catastrophe caused by a natural disaster, the Union government has to declare the region or state as a disaster-hit region and provide direct assistance for rescue and rehabilitation tabulated by U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency. However, some provisions are to be considered on indirectly-hit areas of necessity.

U Ba Shein of Kyaukpyu Constituency said that there remain impacts of heavy storms that hit in 2008 and 2010 on respective regions and local people. Due to storm Giri, Rakhine State suffered heavy loss and wastage. He said that it would appear that when a region or state could not effort to handle the catastrophe caused by a natural disaster, the Union government has to declare the region or state as a disaster-hit region and then, the Union government is to directly undertake relief and rehabilitation works. So, he said he seconded the table of U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency.

Member of the Union level organization Secretary of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe responded the motion, saying that he would like to explain when a region or state could not effort to handle the catastrophe caused by a natural disaster, the Union government has to declare the region or state as a disaster-hit region and provide direct assistance for rescue and rehabilitation tabulated by the Hluttaw representative.

The State Peace and Development Council declared the areas hit by cyclonic storm Nargis on 2 and 3 May 2008 as the natural disaster-hit areas under the announcement No. 4/2008 on 3 May 2008. A total of 138,373 people and animals died or were missing in the storm Nargis and 6.5 million wounded in Ayeyawady and Yangon regions. In consequence, the State and private sectors lost property worth K 11.7 trillion. Direct assistance of the State could be seen in that case.

However, devastation of cyclone Giri in Rakhine State was similar to that of cyclone Nargis, only 45 persons died in the event. In addition, loss and wastage in the Giri was less than that of Nargis. The Giri affected over 220,000 local people with K 0.024 trillion in loss which was 0.2 per cent of cyclone Nargis.
First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw...

(from page 7)

Although the cyclone Giri left lesser death and loss, the government sent the Secretary of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and members Minister for Transport and Deputy Minister for Home Affairs to the storm-hit areas on 23 October during the period of storm for carrying out rescue, rehabilitation and reconstruction works. Then, the chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council commander of Western Command and members of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee led by the Prime Minister was assigned duties as in-charge of Kyaukpyu Township Preparativeness Central Committee led by the Prime Minister State Peace and Development Council commander of reconstruction works. Then, the chairman of Rakhine period of storm for carrying out rescue, rehabilitation and Affairs to the storm-hit areas on 23 October during the

Minister for Transport and Deputy Minister for Home Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for loss, the government sent the Secretary of National

measures in two situations. If a natural disaster is not

in cooperation with FAO.

Township by Livestock Breeding and Fishery Department
distribution of 1300 goats to 650 households in Myebon
given vaccine. Arrangements have been made for

Irrigation and local and international nongovernmental

of paddy in time by the Ministry of Agriculture and

been made for distribution of paddy strains for growing

far, paddy strains for 15000 acres from FAO have been

rainy season.

works are underway to finish the remaining works before

which was damaged in the storm have been repaired and

19.18 miles or 73 per cent out of 26.28 mile-long dyke

Township have been completed and works are underway

present progress of repairing dams. Three dams in

Myebon Township, six in Pauktaw Township, one each in Kyaukpyu and An townships totaling 11 and two dykes were repaired by cent per cent. So far, 63 per cent of repair works for Ngalawae dam in Kyaukpyu Township have been completed and works are underway to finish the remaining works before rainy season. So far, 19.18 miles or 73 per cent out of 26.28 mile-long dyke which was damaged in the storm have been repaired and works are underway to finish the remaining works before rainy season.

Although storm Giri caused damage to 72540 acres of cropland, there have been more sown acreages as 122, 195 acres have been put under winter crops. So far, paddy strains for 15000 acres from FAO have been stored for forthcoming rainy season. Arrangements have been made for distribution of paddy strains for growing of paddy in time by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and local and international nongovernmental organizations. A total of 74617.5 bags of rice were transported to Giri-hit areas. A total of 2196 cattle were
given vaccine. Arrangements have been made for
distribution of 1300 goats to 650 households in Myebon
Township by Livestock Breeding and Fishery Department in cooperation with FAO.

The government takes disaster management

measures in two situations. If a natural disaster is not

much destructive, the Region or State concerned has to play the leading role while the central government provides assistance. And if a natural disaster is so much destructive, the central government takes the leading part in dealing with the catastrophe with the participation of the Region or State. The ordinance for disaster management made by Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee has already been issued. The government is providing even one or two disaster-hit households with relief aids. The Region or State governments later will make more cooperation.

That’s why the NDPCC, on behalf of the government, will be in charge of the disaster management if a natural disaster is not much destructive or if the Region or State concerned could not effort to handle the situation as a natural disaster is hugely destructive.

As the government has been carrying out the disaster management, the NDPCC was formed, direct assistance has been given by the central government and the NDPCC issued an ordinance for disaster management, the motion tabled by the hluttaw representative has already been carried out by the government.

Next, the Hluttaw sought the approvals for the motion tabled by U Pe Than of Myebon Township Constituency that when a Region or State could not effort to handle the catastrophe caused by a natural disaster, the Union government has to declare the Region or State as a disaster-hit region and provide direct assistance for rescue and rehabilitation and approved it.

Three Pyithu Hluttaw representatives held dis-
cussions on the motion “to set up a national health programme to grant health care to low-income

people” tabled by Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Nankham Constituency.

U Sai Thein Aung of Tachilek Constituency holding discussions.—MNA

U Khaing Maung Yi (a) U Khin Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency holding discussions.

MNA

tive. I would like to clarify rehabilitation works in the aftermath of cyclonic storm Giri. First I would like to present progress of repairing dams. Three dams in Myebon Township, six in Pauktaw Township, one each in Kyaukpyu and An townships totaling 11 and two dykes were repaired by cent per cent. So far, 63 per cent of repair works for Ngalawae dam in Kyaukpyu Township have been completed and works are underway to finish the remaining works before rainy season. So far, 19.18 miles or 73 per cent out of 26.28 mile-long dyke which was damaged in the storm have been repaired and works are underway to finish the remaining works before rainy season.

Although storm Giri caused damage to 72540 acres of cropland, there have been more sown acreages as 122, 195 acres have been put under winter crops. So far, paddy strains for 15000 acres from FAO have been stored for forthcoming rainy season. Arrangements have been made for distribution of paddy strains for growing of paddy in time by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and local and international nongovernmental organizations. A total of 74617.5 bags of rice were transported to Giri-hit areas. A total of 2196 cattle were given vaccine. Arrangements have been made for distribution of 1300 goats to 650 households in Myebon Township by Livestock Breeding and Fishery Department in cooperation with FAO.

The government takes disaster management

measures in two situations. If a natural disaster is not

much destructive, the Region or State concerned has to play the leading role while the central government provides assistance. And if a natural disaster is so much destructive, the central government takes the leading part in dealing with the catastrophe with the participation of the Region or State. The ordinance for disaster management made by Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee has already been issued. The government is providing even one or two disaster-hit households with relief aids. The Region or State governments later will make more cooperation.

That’s why the NDPCC, on behalf of the government, will be in charge of the disaster management if a natural disaster is not much destructive or if the Region or State concerned could not effort to handle the situation as a natural disaster is hugely destructive.

As the government has been carrying out the disaster management, the NDPCC was formed, direct assistance has been given by the central government and the NDPCC issued an ordinance for disaster management, the motion tabled by the hluttaw representative has already been carried out by the government.

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U Khaing Maung Yi (a) U Khin Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency holding discussions.

MNA
First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw…

(from page 8)

low-income bracket. The government or the employer should provide subsidy. In this way people will have the opportunity to enjoy proper health care. Market-oriented means should be applied to increase the fund provided by the government and employers till establishing an all-inclusive national health system. He then supported the proposal to set up a national health system guaranteeing people of low-income bracket accessible to health care submitted Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, a Union level organization member, gave a reply, saying as the social standard of the nation is rising, objectives are being laid down and implemented a health system that can respond to the rightful wishes of the evolving people. Various means are being applied in implementing a stipulation of the national health policy “to seek new means to raise fund for health”. In so doing, hospitals have adopted the a new system of raising health funds and cost-sharing scheme for the health care to be within the reach of all regardless of their financial wealth, race and religion. This system will remove the burden of public health cost and earn revenue for the health sector in accord with the country’s socio-economy.

He said central level hospitals and hospitals under region/state health departments will set up health funds for providing medical treatment to the people of low-income bracket. The ministry gives instructions to hospitals to give free medical care for the poor and cost-sharing system for the needy. Health funds, affluent wellwishers, the government and the donors from home and abroad are providing financial assistance to government-run hospitals to ensure free medical treatment and services for the needy in all townships. Cost-sharing system is even applied for the rich. In this way, the burden of health care cost is removed.

According to records after 2005, people in Thailand, Cambodia and Laos have to bear up to 67% of their medical cost. On the other hand, Myanmar has free medical and other services for the poor, health funds to provide all necessary assistance and free medical services and cost-sharing system for even the rich. Myanmar is organizing field health care services down to the grassroots with the participation of specialist physicians and health staff. These field tours include dental care services, general treatments, surgical treatments and eye care treatments free of charge. Myanmar is so successful in kidney and liver transplant operations.

As the nation has effective means for the people of the low-income bracket accessible to all necessary health treatment, he requested the representative concerned to withdraw his proposal.

Concerning his response to the comprehensive discussions of three persons and the minister, Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn said that thanks to the minister, he came to understand the helpful means of the government to provide medical care for people of the low income bracket, the provision of medicines and assistance for other costs in addition to free medical services for the needy, the setting up of health funds, and free health service even for the rich and the cost-sharing system. With the approval of the Hluttaw, he withdrew his motion.

U Ngon Moxung of Haka Constituency submitted a motion “Transport facilitation in Chin State by the Union government.” U Paik Lin of Paletwa Constituency seconded the motion. The Hluttaw approved to discuss the topic at the eight day session of the Hluttaw tomorrow (Friday). There was an announcement for the representatives to register themselves at deputy director-general of the Pyithu Hluttaw this evening to discuss the matter.

U Khang Maung Yi (a) U Khin Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency withdrew his motion “A consideration of the early completion of the highway in Chin State to Indian border” as it is similar to U Ngon Moxung’s. The Hluttaw approved it.

The Speaker announced the conclusion of the seventh session and holding of the eighth session at 10 am tomorrow (Friday).

The session ended at 2.30 pm. —MNA

Panasonic AC new models on sale

YANGON, 10 March—Panasonic introduced its new models of Panasonic air conditioners to markets on 8 March in Yangon.

General Manager of Panasonic Company in Singapore Mr. Nicholas Chua extended greetings and a responsible personnel of the Panasonic Customer Relation Office (Myanmar) explained the Econavi concept that help minimize waste of energy.

As part of the sale promotion programme, Pyaason Win Naing Company has offered lucky draws ranging from K10000.

President Mr Naiho Hiroysu of Rinnai Corporation speaking at 5th anniversary of distribution of Japan-made Rinnai products.—MNA

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5th anniversary of distribution of Rinnai products celebrated

YANGON, 10 March—The ceremony to mark the fifth anniversary of distribution of Japan-made Rinnai products in Myanmar took place at Traders Hotel here on 26 February.

First President Mr. Naiho Hiroysu of Rinnai Corporation made an address and Chairman U Naing Lin of Myanmar Kowa International Co., Ltd spoke words of thanks.

Five lucky draw winners were presented water heaters and gas stoves.

Myanmar Kowa International Co., Ltd distributes Rinnai products such as gas water heater, electric water heater, gas-fired rice cooker, various kinds of gas stoves, built-in hob cooker and gas oven in Myanmar as a sole agent. Japan-made Rinnai products with high standard are available at Rinnai Showrooms and Rinnai sales and service stations and those wishing to run Rinnai sales and service stations may contact Myanmar Kowa International Co., Ltd at No (199) on 34th street (upper block) in Kyauktada township, Yangon (Ph: 01 246304 and 245925).—MNA

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Thayet Township Association (Yangon) to pay respects to the aged

YANGON, 10 March—Thayet Township Association on 26 March morning will conduct an awarding ceremony and a respect-paying ceremony at Myothit Damayon Monastery at the junction of Bayinnaung Street and Myothit (A+B) Ward B/10th Street in Insein Township here.

Those aged 70, Ph.D. holders and those who passed last year matriculation exam with flying colours are with respective publications to contact U Hla Warn (Ph: 643607), U Kyaw Soe (387159), U Thein Baw (Ph: 720880), U Tin Aung (Ph: 522314) and U Hla Myo Aung (Ph: 09-5089537), not later than 20 March. And the resident members should pay respects without fail.—MNA

U Min Than of Thabaung Constituency raises queries.—MNA

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe answering question.—MNA

U Win Than of Thabaung Constituency raises queries.—MNA

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completion of Paungnat Dam project in Shwegu Township, Bhamo District, though the 10-year long project started in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, it has completed only 24.13 per cent in the 2009-2010 fiscal year after seven years. Afterwards, Dr. Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region investment and technical assistance from foreign countries. Only then, will the value of crops be boosted, he said. He asked the responsible personnel whether Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation can work together with farmers and those at home and abroad who want to do investments in the agricultural sector to designed to be suitable to the geographical position of the respective areas. However, they can prevent flow of sea water in the usual way, there were damaged by natural disasters. The State has planned to repair them as soon as possible when they were damaged. A total of 31 dykes at a total distance of 485.31 miles in Ayeyawady and Yangon regions were damaged by the Storm Nargis. During the emergency period, they were repaired in time to grow crops, and work on repair and reconstruction have been carried out and so far, 63 per cent of the damaged dykes have been reconstructed. Similarly, Storm Giri damaged some dykes in Rakhine State. In Kyaukpyu Township, Nga-la-pwyay dyke was damaged at seven portions at a total length of about 10,755 ft and 63 per cent of damaged portions have already been repaired. Ngananyeygun Dyke in Myebon Township have been damaged by Storm Giri and over 70 per cent of the damaged portions of the dyke at a total length of 45860 ft have been reconstructed. Kyunthaya dyke in Myebon Township was damaged at 50 portions at a total length of 10450 ft. Kimiha dyke in Rathedaung township was being repaired and 58 per cent have been completed. All damaged portions of six dykes in Pauktaw Township were have already been repaired. Dawrahta dyke in Yanbye Township was damaged at 15 portions at a total length of 10450 ft and 54 per cent of the damaged portions have already been repaired. Over 3450 ft long damaged portions of Kyikyun dyke in Rathedaung township are being repaired and 58 per cent have been completed.

Myanmar is a landlocked country and has many acres of farmland. While land reclamation is being carried out, fertile land should be transformed into mechanization of agriculture so that agricultural machinery become widely available in the country. In accordance with Sub-section (a) of Article-23 the Chapter-1, of the Constitution which establishes rights for peasants, it is necessary to help peasants not to become landless ones due to unsystematic expansion of business by entrepreneurs. Besides, it is necessary to transform the farmers' traditional agricultural system into the mechanized farming without loosing their rights of land owners while transforming the existing farmland into integrated farmland. Besides, it is necessary to attract foreign coordinate on the integrated farming system in an effort to boost the economy of the country. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Hlay Oo replied queries of the three questions. In his answer to the questions of U Khin Maung Latt of Rakhine State Constituency No-6, Minister U Hlay Oo said the State have already constructed dykes in coastal areas to prevent flow of sea water to farmland. There are 14 dykes at a total distance of 54.31 miles in Taungthazi, 18 dykes in Mon State at a total distance of 5063 miles, 32 dykes in Rakhine State at a total distance of 207.89 miles, 23 dykes in Yangon Region at a total distance of 239.55 miles, 24 dykes in Ayeyawady Region at a total distance of 611.77 miles. There are a total of 111 dykes in the coastal areas, reaching 1164.15 miles in total.

The dykes are designed to be suitable to the geographical position of the respective areas. However, they can prevent flow of sea water in the usual way, there were damaged by natural disasters. The State has planned to repair them as soon as possible when they were damaged. A total of 31 dykes at a total distance of 485.31 miles in Ayeyawady and Yangon regions were damaged by the Storm Nargis. During the emergency period, they were repaired in time to grow crops, and work on repair and reconstruction have been carried out and so far, 63 per cent of the damaged dykes have been reconstructed. Similarly, Storm Giri damaged some dykes in Rakhine State. In Kyaukpyu Township, Nga-la-pwyay dyke was damaged at seven portions at a total length of about 10,755 ft and 63 per cent of damaged portions have already been repaired.

In response to the question raised by U San Tun of Kachin State Constituency No-4, he said that on average, a farmer owns three to five acres of lands; that farming lands by individual farmers helps boost agricultural production; that a farmer running some acres of land can get per acre paddy yield of 100 baskets, but he finds hard to get that par acre yield if he runs over 100 acres of lands; so, agriculturists suggested that peasants farm a small area of land each; that therefore, peasants are not allowed to farm a large area of lands; that peasants are naturally willing to run a land by their own, and

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Farming lands on a manageable scale...

(from page 10)

even if entrepreneurs offer assistance to farm stretching lands of farmers, they are in no mood to accept the assistance; that therefore, it is impossible to run collective farms; that for mechanized farming, the government is encouraging use of farm implements and machinery; that mechanized farming means replacing of labour and cattle with farm implements and machinery based on conditions, not running a large area of farmlands with heavy machinery; that with gradual increase in outputs of crops, farmers get farm implements they like; that the present types of farm implements and machinery are effective in the farms of developing countries including Myanmar; that so the Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank is selling farm implements and machinery by installment; that now farmers own 159,221 power-sillers and tractors, 21,613 reapers and 44,111 combine harvesters; that the government is giving encouragement to private production of farm implements and machinery; that farming lands on a manageable scale by individual peasants makes substantial contribution towards improvement of the socioeconomic status of farmers, so they should cooperate with the ministry.

U Mya Ohn of Kachin State Constituency said that the government gave green light for running jade mines in Phakant Township, Kachin State, which created jobs and local people are enjoying better living conditions; that but throwing wasted earth into the Uru Creek in Phakant has caused floods every year; and that he wondered what the government will do for conservation of the creek.

Member of the Union level body Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint responded that SPDC issued Water Sources Conservation Law on 2 October 2006; Article 11 (c) of Chapter V prohibits gold miners from throwing wasted earth into water sources; that the ministry is supervising tasks in cooperation with local authorities to take action against offenders; that the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems is dredging and conserving the creek from the mouth of the Chindwin River to Nanbo Aung; that arrangements are underway under the supervision of local authorities to enforce the rules and regulations; that a team of experts led by the ministry examined the Haungpa, Phakant, Hsankha section of the waterway from 26 October 2010 to 1 December 2010 to avoid environmental degradation due to maintenance of the creek; that the ministry gave green light for running gems mines to national entrepreneurs and companies in gems lands including Phakant jade mines in Phakant.

The speaker announced that the four motions will be assessed by members of Union level organizations tomorrow. (See page 12)
Farming lands on a manageable scale...

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U Paw Hlyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency (9) tabled a motion to upgrade the road between Gangaw and Yayzwa to an all-weather facility and the suspension bridge linking eastern Gangaw and western Gangaw to a facility that can cope with vehicles.

It was seconded by U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency (12). Aung Hluttaw approved it for discussion. The speaker announced that representatives wishing to hold discussions were to sign up at the deputy director-general of the Hluttaw Office.

It was seconded by U Whay Yang of Chin State Constituency (11), which was then approved by the hluuttaw.

The speaker announced that representatives wishing to hold discussions were to sign up at the deputy director-general of the Hluttaw Office.

It was seconded by U Pon Hlyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency (1), and approved by the hluuttaw. The speaker announced that representatives wishing to hold discussions were to sign up at the deputy director-general of the Hluttaw Office.

Cold front to drop temperatures in north China

BEIJING, 10 March—China’s meteorological authority on Thursday forecast temperatures in most parts of north China to drop from Saturday as a cold front moves over the region.

Northern Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia and the southern parts in northeast China could see temperatures drop by up to 12 degrees, the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) forecast.

High winds are expected to cause sand storms in some regions in Inner Mongolia and Gansu Province over the weekend, the NMC forecast. Some areas in northwest China’s Xinjiang would see heavy snow over the next three days. Meanwhile, moderate rain is expected in the country’s southern and southwestern regions.

Cambodia jails Briton for child sex

PHNOM PENH, 10 March—A Cambodian court on Thursday jailed a British computer engineer for seven years after paying to have sex with two underage girls. Matthew Harland, 38, was arrested in the Capital Phnom Penh last May for buying sex from an 11-year-old and a 12-year-old in 2006.

Phnom Penh Municipal Court also ordered Harland to pay each of the victims one million riel ($250) in compensation. “The verdict offers justice to the victims,” said Peng Maneth, a lawyer for the girls. “But it is regrettable that the court did not order him to be deported after serving the sentence. He is still young and has job opportunities in Cambodia and he could cause more harm to other children,” a British police report said Harland jumped bail from Britain in 2005 after being arrested on child pornography charges, according to Cambodian police.

Cambodia launched an anti-paedophilia push in 2003 to try to shake off its reputation as a sex predators’ haven. Dozens of foreigners have since been jailed for child sex crimes or deported to face trial in their home countries.

Philippine Metrobank net profit up 39% in 2010

MANILA, 10 March — Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co (Metrobank), one of the Philippines’ biggest commercial banks, posted a 39 percent growth in its net profit last year thanks to a surge in non-interest earnings. Officials disclosed Thursday that Metrobank earned 8.4 billion pesos (193.55 million US dollars) in total revenues grew by 10 percent to 48.1 billion pesos (1.11 billion US dollars) on back of 28 percent hike in non-interest income.

Net interest income increased 14.7 percent to 26.4 billion pesos (608.30 million US dollars) in 2010. The net interest income derived from lending, investment and borrowing activities represented 54.86 percent of the Metrobank group’s revenue net of interest and finance charges in 2010...Xinhua

Photo taken on 9 March, 2011 shows the U-shape bend of Jinsha River in the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Deqen in southwest China’s Yunnan Province. The Jinsha River is the upper reaches of the Yangtze River, China’s longest river.—INTERNET

Dancers perform at the booth of Uzbekistan on the International Tourism Exchange (ITB) trade show in Berlin, on 9 March, 2011. The 45th International Tourism Exchange (ITB) trade show opened here Wednesday with record numbers of exhibitors and emphasis on travel technology innovations.—INTERNET

Photo taken on 8 March, 2011 shows a night view of Shanghai Oriental Sport Centre which is under lighting test. The 14th FINA World Championships is to be held here from 26 July to 31 July, 2011.—XINHUA

Photo taken on 26 March, 2011 shows a young reveller participates in the annual Venice Carnival at the St Mark’s Square in Venice, northern Italy, on 8 March, 2011. The 2011 Venice Carnival ended on Tuesday. XINHUA
The study claims man lost the penile spines of other primates during evolution.—Internet

**Polar ice loss quickens, raising seas**

**PASADENA, 10 March** — Ice loss from Antarc-tica and Greenland has ac-celerated over the last 20 years, research shows, and will soon become the biggest driver of sea level rise. From satellite data and climate models, sci-entists calculate that the two polar ice sheets are losing enough ice to raise sea levels by 1.3mm each year. Overall, sea levels are rising by about 3mm (0.12 inches) per year.

Writing in Geophysical Research Letters, the team says ice loss here is speeding up faster than models predict. They add their voices to several other studies that have concluded sea levels will rise faster than projected by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its landmark 2007 assessment. By 2006, the Greenland and Antarctic sheets were los-sing a combined mass of 475Gt (gigatonnes - billion tonnes) of ice per year.—Internet

**US-Japan desk diplomat replaced for Okinawa comments**

**TOKYO, 10 March** — The head of the US State Department’s desk for Ja-pan has been replaced, for apparently making disparaging remarks about the people of Okinawa. Japa-nese media quoted the offi-cial, Kevin Maher, as say-ing Okinawans were lazy and used their island’s hosting of US military bases to extort benefits.

The Department said the remarks attributed to Mr Maher were regrettable and did not reflect gov-ernment policy. More than 30 US bases in Okinawa support the Japan-US security alliance. Mr Maher had been replaced by Rust Deming, the deputy chief of mission in Tokyo. A statement from the US embassy in Tokyo said vis-iting Assistant Secretary Kurt Campbell had ex-pressed deep regrets over the comments, which were made in December. Mr Campbell said the US has “the utmost respect for the Okinawan people”.—Internet

**The US has more than 30 different military bases within Okinawa prefecture.—Internet**

**Paris police recover $25m in stolen jewels**

**PARIS, 10 March** — French police have recovered gems stolen during a burglary from luxury jeweler Harry Winston’s store in Paris in 2008, they announced. The loot, worth 18 million euros (about $25 million) was found hidden in a rain sewer at a house in Seine-Saint-Denis, a Paris suburb, the Paris police said on Tuesday.

Nineteen rings — including one valued at six million euros ($8.3 million) — and three pairs of earrings had been put in a plastic container and set in a cement mold inside the sewer.—Internet

**How man ‘lost his penile spines’**

**STANFORD, 10 March** — Scientists believe men once had small spines on their genitalia such as those found in chimpanzees, cats and mice. Analysis of the genomes of humans, chimpanzees and macaques in-dicates that a DNA sequence thought to play a role in the production of these spines has been deleted in humans, but has been preserved in other primates.

It suggests another genetic deletion may have led to the expansion of specific regions of the human brain. The study is in the journal Nature. The researchers at Stanford, Georgia and Pennsylvania State universities in the US wanted to trace evolutionary changes in human DNA. — Internet

**Claims Day Notice**

**MOV KOTA RATU VOY NO (423)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MOV KOTA RATU VOY NO (423) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.3.2011 and cargo will be dis-charged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie from the Claims Day. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

**Photo No: 256908/378316/376797**

**The Greenland ice sheet is losing its mass faster than its southern counterpart.—Internet**

**National Theatre**

(Mye Ma Kyaung Street)

18.3.2011 FRIDAY 6:30 PM
Ticket Price - 35000 Ks, 30000 Ks, 20000 Ks

**A New York City teen-ager has been arrested following the death of a younger sibling’s hamster.— Internet**

Teenager held over hamster’s death

**NEW YORK, 10 March** — A New York City teen-ager has been arrested fol-low ing the death of a younger sibling’s ham-ster. Joseph Pentangelo of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) said the creature, which be-longed to a nine-year-old, died during a domestic dispute last June.

The 19-year-old is ac-cused of choking and squeezing the four-ounce hamster and throwing it on the floor. It was then thrown across the street, though tests concluded that the animal was prob-ably already dead by the time that happened.

Mr Pentangelo says the charges include aggra-vated cruelty to animals and child endangerment. He claimed three children witnessed the hamster’s death. The Brooklyn teen-ager was arrested on Tues-day night. If convicted, she could face up to two years in prison.—Internet
Milan ousted by Champions League newcomer Spurs

LONDON, 10 March — In its first season in the Champions League, Tottenham is moving on to the quarterfinals. Following a victory in Italy in the first leg three weeks ago, Spurs held seven-time champion AC Milan to a 0-0 tie Wednesday night and won the total-goals series on 1-0 aggregate.

“It’s a great achievement for this club to be in the last eight,” Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp said. “It’s amazing what the players have done.”

In the day’s other game, Schalke rallied to beat Valencia 3-1 and advanced on 4-2 aggregate.

Tottenham is in Europe’s top competition for the first time since the 1961-62 Champions Clubs’ Cup, when Spurs lost to Benfica in the semifinals.

“It’s a huge night for us,” said Tottenham forward Peter Crouch, who scored in the first leg. “We defended magnificently. We had to dig in and defend from the front, and I think we deserved it over the two legs.”

US beats Iceland 4-2 to win Algarve Cup

FARO, 10 March — After needing to win two playoffs to reach the World Cup, the US women’s team can leave the Algarve Cup with some much-needed confidence.

Lauren Cheney tied the score in first-half stoppage time with a 6-yard volley. Heather O’Reilly got the go-ahead goal in the 55th and the Americans beat Iceland 4-2 Wednesday night for their eighth tournament title.

“We couldn’t have been any better,” defender Christine Rampone said. “We were struggling. We all know that.”

At the World Cup in Germany, the Americans open against North Korea on 28 June, then play Colombia on 2 July and Sweden on 6 July.

“We’ve still got three months preparation, and we’re looking good and that’s what you need leading into the World Cup,” Rampone said. “We’ve done that by adding Marcus (Camby), Wesley (Matthews) and most recently, Gerald (Wallace) and now, I’m glad that after productive discussions, Nate is now committed to be our coach for two more years.”

Under McMillan, who on Tuesday agreed to a two-year extension with Trail Blazers head coach Nate McMillan (L), the Trail Blazers have over a rash of injuries to become playoff threats. They have won four in a row, including victories over Orlando and the struggling Miami Heat.

Top tennis stars take aim at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, 10 March — World number ones Rafael Nadal and Caroline Wozniacki lead a world-class field into the US$4.5 million BNP Paribas Open, a combined WTA and ATP Masters series event that begins on Wednesday.

Instant replay will be available for the first time on all eight competition courts at the desert resort oasis, where Croatia’s Ivan Ljubicic and Serbian Jelena Jankovic will defend their crowns. Women’s main draw matches begin Wednesday while the men start on Thursday.

In each case, top seeds have first-round byes, pushing the debut matches for most of the major stars to the weekend.

Nadal, a nine-time Grand Slam champion who won 2007 and 2009 Wimbledon titles, ended a five-week layoff last week in a first-round Davis Cup tie and seeks another deep run after losing to Ljubicic in last year’s semifinals.

World number ones Caroline Wozniacki (pictured) and Rafael Nadal lead a world-class field into the US$4.5 million BNP Paribas Open, a combined WTA and ATP Masters series event that begins on Wednesday.

Ballack set for final cap against Brazil

BERLIN, 10 March — Ex-Germany captain Michael Ballack is set to win his 99th — and final — cap in August’s international friendly against Brazil, according to reports here on Wednesday.

Germany coach Joachim Loew is set to meet Ballack later this month to discuss the ex-Chelsea star’s international future and his possible farewell match against Brazil in Stuttgart on 10 August, the Bild daily reported.

Ballack is not expected to be involved in Germany’s Euro 2012 qualifier against Kazakhstan on 26 March or the friendly with Australia on 29 March.
Surgery puts tennis star Nalbandian out of action

BUENOS AIRES, 10 March —Argentina’s David Nalbandian will undergo surgery for a hernia problem and a torn adductor muscle on Thursday and will be out of action for two months, a member of his entourage said Wednesday.

The world number 19 aggravated the problem playing in the Davis Cup last weekend which saw the South Americans advance past Romania 4-1 to about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Montywa and Chauk (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Lounglon (1.02) inches and Kawkareik (0.71) inch.

Nalbandian will undergo surgery for a hernia problem and a torn adductor muscle and will be out of action for two months, a member of his entourage said Wednesday.

Argentina’s David Nalbandian, seen here in January 2011, will undergo surgery for a hernia problem and a torn adductor muscle and will be out of action for two months.

WEATHER

Thursday, 10th March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Region, isolated in Yangon Region and Mon State, weather has been partly cloudy over Upper Sagraing Region, Kachin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Upper Sagraing and Magway Regions, Kachin, Kayah and Mon States, (5°C) above March average temperatures in Lower Sagraing and Mandalay Regions, Southern Shan and Chin States and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Montywa and Chauk (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Lounglon (1.02) inches and Kawkareik (0.71) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 9-3-2011 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 10-3-2011 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 10-3-2011 was (64%). Rainfall on 10-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 9-3-2011 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 10-3-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 10-3-2011 was (75%).

Total sunshine hours on 9-3-2011 was (8.9) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 10-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.82) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southeast at (15:30) hours MST on 9-3-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 11th March 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Bago, Yangon, Ayeawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy over the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 11-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-3-2011: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

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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

Farming lands on a manageable scale by individual peasants makes substantial contribution towards improvement of socio-economic status of farmers

First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continues for seventh day

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — The first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the seventh day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today.

It was attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Speaker U Khin Aung Myint announced the validity and start of the seventh-day session as 221 or 99.1 per cent of 223 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives were present.

Of the questions submitted under Amyotha Hluttaw Rule 116 by Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, permitted ones were raised, and members of respective Union level organizations responded to the questions.

U Khin Maung Latt of Rakhine State Constituency-6 said that Myanmar’s over 1000-mile long coastal areas have suffered increasing impacts of the global warming, vizing cyclonic storms, high tides and rising sea level year after year.

He asked whether there would be plans for building long barriers along the coastal areas in a bid to prevent tide as the areas play an important role in socio-economy of the country.

Afterwards, U San Tun of Kachin Sate Constituency-11 asked about any plan for

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