NAY P YI T AW, 28 Sept—The second regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the 27th day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 384 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

At today’s session, five questions were answered, one proposal discussed and approval for the yesterday’s bill continued.

U Sai Kyauk of Mongphyat Constituency asked whether there is a plan to coordinate mining companies and timber companies for creation of jobs for the local people of Mongphyat in Shan State (East) or not. Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi replied that the Ministry of Labour opens labour exchange offices to create job opportunities for job hunters at home and abroad. Labour exchange offices have been opened in Kengtung and Tachileik of Shan State (East). Labour exchange office (Kengtung District) takes responsibility for labour affairs in Mongphyat Township.

He has learnt that local workers are employed at the mining industries in Mongphyat Township. Mining industries need skilful workers, and many labourers are needed at mine construction work. The Ministry of Mines allows appointment of Myanmar workers at the mines.

Myanma Timber Enterprise is not carrying out timber extraction in Mongphyat Township of Shan State (East) in 2011-2012 fiscal year. Three timber companies are engaged in timber extraction at Mongpupgyi forest reserve, Monpupgyi public forest, Monkhan forest reserve (1) and Mekningu forest reserve in Monghsat Township with skilful workers. Thus, when Loomwe Company carries out cultivation of 40 acres of rubber in Mongphyat region, if the local people apply jobs at the farm, Kengtung Township Labour Exchange Office of the Ministry of Labour will give assistance for them. The local labour exchange office will assist those who are skilful in professions of ranger, mahout, and driving vehicle and heavy machinery at the jobs of timber extraction. If they are qualified for the works, the local labour exchange offices will seek the jobs for them.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw replied to two questions on agriculture sector raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency asked if there will be heavy machinery assistance for farmers in construction of the strong dykes at the tidal areas in Rakhine State and plans of the State to solve such matter. The deputy minister replied that there are 394 farmer dykes to be upgraded to the strong ones in Rakhine State with the use of 1,376 million saddles of earth. Only when terrain and extraction of earth from proper places are in better conditions, will heavy machinery be conveyed to the worksites and used for upgrading farmer dykes in tidal areas.

At even some worksites of Irrigation Department, heavy machinery were moved in poor transport regions with the use of manpower. Funds will be demanded from the Union government for timely carrying out of necessary farmer dykes on priority, and depending the allotted funds, upgrading of the farmer dykes will be undertaken.

U Tin Maung Oo of Shwepyitha Constituency asked whether there is a plan to issue strains of cultivable crops, sow acreage and technical advices, supply and demand of international market for crops for serving the interests of farmers and producers. The deputy minister replied that cost efficiency and market demand for production of crops.

(See page 8)
Locals to join in community-based development schemes

The government has focused on raising socio-economic standard of the people, fulfilling needs and bridging the gap between the urban areas and rural and border regions. Especially, it has speeded up socio-economic development schemes for poor rural folks. It has joined hands with UN agencies, internal and international NGOs, local people, and private sector in fulfilling the basic needs of people.

Department of Progress of Border Areas and National Races under the Ministry of Border Affairs signed MoU on community-based regional development project with World Vision Myanmar yesterday. Likewise, Development Affairs Department and Bridge Asia Japan signed MoU on extension of arid zone water supply project for further three years.

The two agreements focus on community-based development schemes such as uplift of capability of rural people, education and child prevention, micro economy, agricultural development, health, water supply, environmental cleanliness, natural disaster prevention and rescue works.

The agreements will benefit villages in Kokang region of Shan State (North) and Hpa-an and Hlinebwe townships of Kayin State, totaling 67 villages. Moreover, the latter agreement includes sinking of tube wells, renovating and maintaining of old tube-wells and conducting geophysical survey in arid zones.

In addition to supplying water to arid regions, capacity enhancement of rural folks is projected in Magway, Natmauk, Yenangyoung and Chauk townships of Magway Region, and thus people of 100 villages will have access to sufficient drinking water. So, locals are urged to work in tandem with ministries concerned for the success of community-based development schemes.

**Medicines, equipment donated to Yangon People’s Hospital**

**YANGON,** 28 Sept—Myanmar Medicine and Medical Equipment Merchants and Entrepreneurs Association donated medicines and medical equipment to Yangon People’s Hospital at the hall of the hospital this morning, with an address by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Chairman of the Association Dr Win Sithu elaborated on purpose of donation. Donor companies donated medicines and medical equipment through the chief minister, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, and Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Nu Nu Tha and officials.

At today’s ceremony, 45 member companies donated medicines and medical equipment worthy of K 88.974 million.

**Plan to facilitate Pathein with modern private specialist hospital**

**YANGON,** 28 Sept—With a view to enabling Pathein of Ayeyawady Region to have city characteristics, one modern private specialist hospital and a shopping mall will be built in the open season, according to Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung.

At present, one 250-bed hospital, four 200-bed hospitals, three 100-bed hospitals, five 50-bed hospitals, thirteen 25-bed hospitals, four 16-bed hospitals, 56 16-bed station/sub-township hospitals, three regional health branches, 42 maternal and child health centres, 203 rural health centres, 977 rural health branches, nine school health centres and two border region dispensaries are providing health care services to the local people.

**Health department signs MoU with INGOs**

**YANGON,** 28 Sept—A ceremony to sign MoU between the Ministry of Health and INGOs took place at the ministry here yesterday noon.

Director-General of the health department Dr Tun Naing Oo delivered a speech, and signed the MoU with INGOs—Care Myanmar, CESVI, Malteser International, World Vision (Myanmar), AMI, Merlin Organizations.

**Union Education Minister receives Japanese Ambassador**

**YANGON,** 28 Sept—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye received Japanese Ambassador Mr Takashi Saito and party at the ministry, here, this afternoon.

They discussed donation for construction of 20 primary schools in Ayeyawady Region and matters related to Monbukagakusho Scholarship Programme.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers U Aye Kyu and U Ba Shwe, Director-General Dr Soe Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) and officials.

**Inter-Ministry Table Tennis Tournament kicks off**

**YANGON, 28 Sept—**Inter-Ministry Table Tennis Tournament 2011 kicked off today at the training hall of Myanmar Table Tennis Federation in National Swimming Pool on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township here.

Secretary of Myanmar National Sports Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyaw addressed the athletes and opened the tournament.

Finance/Revenue, Defence (a) and (b), Construction, Home Affairs, Education, Agriculture/Irrigation (a) and (b), and Sports (a) and (b) teams are competing in the game which will be held daily till 1 October.**—MNA**
**Eight people killed, 22 wounded in Iraq's violence**

BAGHDAD, 28 Sept—A total of eight people were killed and 22 wounded in separate attacks in central and northern Iraq on Tuesday, the police said.

Two policemen were killed and two others wounded when a land mine detonated near their vehicle in the City of Sherqat, some 280 km north of Baghdad, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, a policeman and 13 civilians were wounded when gunfire in their car hurled three hand grenades on a police checkpoint at a crowded marketplace in central the City of Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad, a source from the city police anonymously told Xinhua.

In Baghdad, gunmen using silenced weapons shot dead a government official in a drive-by shooting while he was driving his car in Jania District in western the capital, an Interior Ministry source said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Earlier in the day, the police reported the killing of five people, including two policemen, and the wounding of six people in separate gunfire and bomb attacks in Iraq's western Province of Anbar.

Violence has increased in the Iraqi cities as the Iraqi security forces are preparing to take over control of security alone after the proposed departure of U.S. troops by the end of the year withdrawal deadline.—Xinhua

**Four killed in US drone strike in N-W Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD, 28 Sept—At least four suspected militants were killed and another two injured in a US drone strike launched Tuesday night in Pakistan’s northwest tribal area of South Waziristan, reported local media ARY.

According to the local media reports, two missiles were fired by a US drone at a house suspected of being a militant’s hideout at the Azam Warsak area of South Waziristan which borders Afghanistan.

Details about the identities of the killed in the strike are not immediately available. Tuesday night’s US drone strike is the 53rd of its kind (counted on daily basis) in Pakistan in 2011. To date, a total of 467 people, most of them believed to be militants, have reportedly been killed in such strikes.—MNA/Xinhua

**Typhoon Nesat leaves 31 dead in Philippines**

MANILA, 28 Sept—Typhoon Nesat exited the Philippines Wednesday, leaving 31 people dead, over 60,000 families displaced and damaging nearly 1 billion pesos (22.8 million US dollars) worth of infrastructure and crops.

Nesat battered northern Philippines Tuesday bringing heavy rains and high winds that caused landslides and widespread flooding. As of Wednesday night, Nesat has left the Philippines and is now moving towards south China, according to local weather forecasters.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said most of the fatalities were from the worst-hit Central Luzon, Cordillera region and capital region.

In the Philippine capital of Manila, Nesat brought torrential rains that filled the streets with waist-deep water, destroyed several shops and knocked down trees. Waves from Manila Bay reached as high as coconut trees and pounded the seawall.

In the northern region of Cordillera, 61 road sections were blocked due to landslides and flooding.

NDRRMC Executive Director Benito Ramos said drowning, landslides, traffic accidents and falling trees were the main causes of death.—Xinhua

**Ship fire kills eight, injures 49 in Indonesia**

JAKARTA, 28 Sept—Eight people were killed and at least 49 others injured when a fire took place in a passenger ship at a seaport in Surabaya, Capital of East Java on Wednesday morning, rescuers and officials said.

The fire on the Kirana Sembilan ship occurred on Wednesday morning when a truck in the ship was burned down, which triggered panic among the passengers and they immediately rushed out of the ship. Head of the Search and Rescue Office in East Java who goes with single name Sutrisno told Xinhua by phone.

“Eight people were killed and tens of others wounded after being trodden by others during the escape from the ship,” official at the Tanjung Perak seaport Pangestuti told Xinhua by phone.

She said that the accident took place at about six o’clock local time when the ship was still in the seaport before departure.

Manager at the nearby PHC Tanjung Perak Hospital Harry Setiawan told Xinhua by phone that as many as 49 people had been rushed to the hospital.

“Fourteen of the 49 people got serious injuries like broken bones and bruise, and four are being treated at the insensitive care unit. The number of wounded could rise as the people keep bringing them here now,” he said.

The head of the rescue office said that the fire had been put out.

Taking ship is a favourite transport means in the archipelago country with over 17,500 islands, but accident frequently happens due to the lacking of safety standards.—Xinhua

**Second New Zealand special forces soldier killed in Afghanistan**

WELLINGTON, 28 Sept—A second New Zealand special forces soldier has been killed in a military operation in Afghanistan, New Zealand Prime Minister John Key announced Wednesday.

The soldier with the Special Air Service (SAS) was shot while the SAS were mentoring the Afghan Crisis Response Unit during an operation in Wardak Province near Kabul, said Key.

“I am saddened by the loss of this SAS soldier, the second from the unit to die in Afghanistan. It is a reminder of the volatile and dangerous conditions that our Defence Force personnel face in Afghanistan,” said Key.

Defence Force Lieutenant General Rhys Jones, at a Press conference with

Key later Wednesday, said the soldier was evacuated by helicopter to a base where the top military neurosurgeon in Afghanistan and his team were working.

“Unfortunately he died on the operating table,” Jones said. The SAS were reacting to information about a team preparing to launch an attack on Kabul.

A child and a “fighting-aged” male were also injured in the operation, which had involved 15 SAS and 50 Afghan soldiers. “It was a warranted operation from the Ministry of the Interior, the police organization of Afghanistan, with an arrest and a search warrant to deter and disrupt this team,” Jones said.
Dubai’s real estate market hit hard by financial crisis

DUBAI, 28 Sept—Visitors to the three-day property fair and exhibition “Cityscape Global,” which kicked off Tuesday, were surprised when they noticed that this year’s fair and exhibition spread only over three halls in the Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC).

Three years ago, during the heydays at the Gulf, when oil prices hit 140 US dollars per barrel, this fair occupied all 10 halls of the DWTC. The crisis has taken its toll in Dubai, which is considered the focal point of the Arab business world.

According to Citibank, real estate projects worth 170 billion dollars have been cancelled since the outbreak of the financial crisis. Rents have fallen by almost four fifths since 2008.

Nevertheless there are also some green shoots visible at the congress.

Ali Rashid Lootah, chairman of the state-owned developer Nakheel unveiled the Palm Residences, a villa community on the man-made island Palm Jumeirah, a popular tourist hotspot and home of four luxurious beach hotels.

“We see more sales this year, real estate prices have stabilized, and we are confident to post a net profit again in 2011,” Lootah told Xinhua.

Nakheel is currently restructuring debts worth 16 billion dollars. Asked by Xinhua, why a recent Islamic Bond-issuance worth 1.03 billion dollars was not oversubscribed, he answered that the Nakheel is still undervalued by the market.

Xinhua

Colon cancer advances faster in men

NEW YORK, 28 Sept—Men with colon cancer tend to have more advanced tumours than women of the same age, according to a new study that suggests screening guidelines may need to be adjusted for sex and age. Currently, men and women age 50 and older are urged to get a colonoscopy to screen for growths or polyps that could form into tumours.

Colorectal cancer is the fourth leading cancer killer worldwide, taking 610,000 lives per year. The study in the Journal of the American Medical Association examined 44,350 participants in a national screening colonoscopy programme from 2007 to 2010 in Austria.

The screenings look for adenomas, which are polyps or benign tumours as well as for particularly advanced adenomas and colorectal cancer.

The analysis found “a significantly higher rate of these lesions among men compared with women in all age groups, suggesting that male sex constitutes an independent risk factor for colorectal carcinoma,” according to the study.

For instance, five percent of men age 50-54 had advanced adenomas compared to just 2.9 percent of women. The rate of colorectal cancer in 55-59-year-old men (1.3 percent) was about the same as in women a decade older (65-69-year-old women were diagnosed at a rate of 1.2 percent). The prevalence of colorectal cancer overall was twice as high among men, at 1.5 percent, compared to 0.7 percent in women.

An elderly man is seen sitting with his dog next to the ‘Super Colon,’ a large interactive replica of a human colon during Community Colon Cancer Prevention Day, in 2005, in New York.

Tepco reform plan calls for axing 7,400 jobs

TOKYO, 28 Sept—Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) will be advised to cut 7,400 jobs, or about 14 percent of its full-time employees, by March 2014 as part of a plan to help it pay compensation for the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, the Yomiuri newspaper said on Wednesday.

A government-appointed panel looking into the finances of the utility, known as Tepco, is also expected to call for it to raise 600 billion yen ($7.8 billion) in asset sales and cut pension payments among other measures to help it finance the aftermath of the world’s worst nuclear disaster in 25 years, the newspaper daily reported.

It also wants government steps to encourage banks to continue lending to Tepco, the report said.

The restructuring plan is due to be unveiled on 3 October, the newspaper said, without citing the source of the information.

Tepco will then draw up a business plan later in October and seek government approval to receive funding — which some experts have said could be 2 to 8 trillion yen ($26-104 billion) — financed by contributions from nuclear power operators and taxpayers’ money.

At least 13 killed in listeria outbreak in US

WASHINGTON, 28 Sept—At least 13 people had been killed amid 72 sickened in 18 states in listeria outbreak traced to Colorado cantaloupes, making it the most deadly US outbreak of food-borne infection since 1998, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said Tuesday in a statement posted on its website. Of the 13 deaths, four were in New Mexico, two were in Colorado, two were in Texas, and there was one each in Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Victims range in age from 35 to 96 years, with an average age of 78. All of the illnesses started on or after 31 July.

The figures were the latest confirmed as of Monday morning, according to the CDC. But they may well rise in the still-widening outbreak as state and local officials are investigating three additional deaths that may be connected.

Popular herb has no benefit for prostate

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 Sept—An herbal supplement that is widely sold in the United States and Europe to relieve urinary symptoms in men with an enlarged prostate has no benefit over a placebo, a US study said Tuesday.

The global market for saw palmetto extract is about $700 million a year, but a randomized trial at 11 sites in North America showed that even triple doses of the over-the-counter drug neither worked nor harmed the patients. “Astonishingly enough, there was not any measurable effect — either in benefits or in toxicity — with increasing doses of the supplement in comparison to placebo,” said co-author Claus Roehrborn, chairman of urology at University of Texas Southwestern.

“These supplements are apparently not doing anything measurably above and beyond what we call the placebo effect,” said Roehrborn of the research in the latest edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Led by Michael Barry of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, researchers followed 379 men age 45 and older whose symptoms included difficulty emptying their bladders, weak and/or frequent urination.

As part of the randomized trial, some received saw palmetto extract — which comes from the berries of the saw palmetto dwarf plant tree — and others were given a sugar pill that smelled and tasted the same. Measurements showed the drug, even when increased in dosage over 72 weeks, had no impact on urinary symptoms such as nighttime urination or incontinence, and did not improve sexual function or allow men to sleep better.

At least 13 killed in listeria outbreak in US
Aircraft compete for $1.65 million prize

SANTA ROSA, 28 Sept—Five teams from across the United States that built alternative-powered aircraft are competing for a $1.65 million prize in California, NASA says. At this week’s Green Flight Centennial Challenge at the Sonoma County Airport in Santa Rosa, the teams hope to demonstrate their electric-, biofuel- and hybrid-powered small aircraft is the most fuel-efficient in the world, a NASA release said.

Competition for what NASA says is the largest aviation prize ever offered are: Team Feuling, Phoenix Air, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Pipistrel-USA and e-Genius, the aviation news Web site AVWeb.com said.

NASA and the Comparative Aircraft Flight Efficiency Foundation of Santa Rosa said competitors would tackle a fuel efficiency competition and a speed competition.

To win the fuel competition, an aircraft must fly 200 miles in less than 2 hours using less than one gallon of fuel per occupant or an equivalent amount of electricity.—INTERNET

Warmer world may mean smaller animals

LONDON, 28 Sept—Many animal species could shrink in physical size as an unanticipated consequence of global warming, British researchers say. 

Cold-blooded species have long been known to react to a phenomenon known as the “temperature-size rule,” in which individuals of the same species reach a smaller adult size when reared at warmer temperatures.

Researchers at Queen Mary, University of London say they’ve discovered how and why that occurs.

The scientists say in many cold-blooded species, the growth rate, or how fast mass is accumulated, and the development rate, how fast an individual passes through its life stages, are consistently “decoupled,” with development being more sensitive to temperature than growth.

“We’ve shown that growth and development increase at different rates as temperatures warm,” researchers Andrew Hirst said.

“The consequences are that at warmer temperatures a species grows faster but matures even faster still, resulting in them achieving a smaller adult size.”

The researchers say their findings suggest rates fundamental to all organisms such as mortality, reproduction and feeding — may not change in synch with one another in a warming world.—INTERNET

New computer memory uses nanotechnology

WEST LAFAYETTE, 28 Sept—US experts say a new kind of computer memory using nano-technology could be faster than current technology and use far less power than flash memory devices.

Scientists at Purdue University say the technology combines silicon nanowires with a “ferroelectric” polymer, a material that switches polarity when electric fields are applied.

That change can be read as 0 or 1, allowing digital circuits to store information in binary code, a university release said Tuesday.

The new technology is called FeTRAM, for ferroelectric transistor random access memory.

“We’ve developed the theory and done the experiment and also showed how it works in a circuit,” doctoral student Saptarshi Das said.

The FeTRAM is nonvolatile storage, meaning information stays in memory when the computer is powered down.

Apple expected to unveil new iPhone next week

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 Sept—Apple Inc looks set next week to unveil its much-awaited new iPhone, which analysts say will have a bigger screen and work better with remote computing services.

Apple on Tuesday invited media to a “special event” called “Let’s talk iPhone” on 4 October at its Cupertino, California headquarters, an unusual location for a company that typically introduces major products at larger venues in San Francisco.

The invitation said not have any other details, and an Apple spokesman would not provide further information.

“This is the iPhone 5,” ThinkEquity analyst Mark McKechnie said of the event. The new iPhone would be the first major product launch under Tim Cook, who took over full-time as chief executive after co-founder Steve Jobs resigned last month.

It was unclear if Jobs, who is now chairman, will take the stage at the event.

Though a good product, the current iPhone 4 could use some improvements, McKechnie said. “We talked about it having a bigger screen, a dual core processor, and probably integrates pretty well with the iCloud.”

The iPhone — introduced in 2007 with the touchscreen template now adopted by its rivals remains the gold standard in the booming smartphone market. The new model, which some have dubbed the iPhone 5, will have a bigger touch screen, better antenna and an 8-megapixel camera, one source with knowledge of the matter told Reuters in August.—Reuters
Six people killed by landslide in Colombia

BOGOTA, 28 Sept—At least six people including four children died in Colombia when their house was buried by a landslide in the north-central province of Antioquia, emergency authorities reported on Tuesday. The tragedy occurred early Monday after several days of torrential rains in the remote municipality of Angostura, said Freddy Rendon, director of the Office of Disaster Prevention, Attention and Recovery Office. “Six people died, including the father, the mother and four children, who unfortunately were buried among the rubble,” Rendon told local reporters.

When rescuers arrived at the site, a daughter of the family, who was not in the house, called for help, but it was too late. The bodies were recovered later on Monday. Over 100 people have been killed in Colombia in similar events so far in 2011 after unusual heavy seasonal rains caused widespread flooding and river overflowing as well as landslides in mountainous areas.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos has urged local governments to take extra measures to avoid unwanted confrontation between their armed forces in the Gulf Region. “When we are in the Gulf of Mexico, we will establish direct contact with the United States,” Ali Fadavi, commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy, was quoted in Press reports as saying.

“The view of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the presence of the US in the Persian Gulf is illegitimate and makes no sense.” The Iranian navy has been developing its presence in international waters since last year, regularly launching vessels in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden to protect Iranian ships from Somali pirates operating in the area.—INTERNET

Two subway trains rear-end in Shanghai, over 240 injured

SHANGHAI, 28 Sept—A subway train rear-ended another Tuesday afternoon in Shanghai, leaving more than 240 passengers injured.

The number of injured passengers have risen to 245, Xinhua reporters learned from about 10 hospitals that offer treatment. Most of the injuries were bruises and bone fractures and there were also external head traumas, doctors told Xinhua. None of the injured were in critical condition, they said.

The crash occurred around 1:46 pm when a signal system failure at one station on the Line 10 subway, Shanghai Shentong Metro Group Co said in a statement, adding that about 500 passengers had been evacuated from the trains. The signal system failure at about 2:10 pm meant the trains had to be directed over the phone by subway staff rather than by electric signals and ran at slower speeds, it said.

Photos posted on weibo.com, China’s popular Twitter-like microblogging service, showed several passengers bleeding, with firefighters entering the train to rescue the injured. Subway services at nine stations on the Line 10 has been halted, it said. Local authorities have launched a further investigation into the crash.—Xinhua

Iran plans to send ships close to US waters

TEHERAN, 28 Sept—Iran’s navy is going to deploy ships close to US territorial waters, its commander in chief was quoted as saying on Tuesday. “As the global oppression (the US) is present not far from our maritime border our navy is going to have a strong presence not far from US territorial waters,” the IRNA news agency quoted Admiral Habibollah Sayyari as saying.

On 19 July Sayyari also said that Iran was going to send “a flotilla into the Atlantic”. The remarks come as another high-ranking Iranian appeared to reject a recent US request to establish a “red phone” link between the countries to avoid unwanted confrontation between their armed forces in the Gulf Region. “When we are in the Gulf of Mexico, we will establish direct contact with the United States,” Ali Fadavi, commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Navy, was quoted in Press reports as saying.

“In the view of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the presence of the US in the Persian Gulf is illegitimate and makes no sense.” The Iranian navy has been developing its presence in international waters since last year, regularly launching vessels in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden to protect Iranian ships from Somali pirates operating in the area.—INTERNET

A handout picture release by the official Iranian Press agency IRNA shows an Iranian support warship docked at the Syrian port of Latakia, February 2011.

INTERNET

Photo taken on 27 Sept, 2011 shows the Erqi Yangtze River Bridge in Wuhan, capital of central China’s Hubei Province. The two sections of the bridge were joined on Tuesday. The seventh cross-Yangtze River bridge of Wuhan City is the largest three-tower cable-stayed bridge with 616 metres of main span. The bridge is expected to be put into operation in the end of 2011.—XINHUA

Gas explosion hits Malaysian mall; four injured

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 Sept—Malaysia’s fire department says a suspected gas leak has led to an explosion at a shopping mall in a suburb of Kuala Lumpur. Four people have been injured in the blast.

District fire official Mohamad Sani Harul says Wednesday morning’s explosion occurred in the basement of the Empire Gallery mall and caused extensive damage to the six-storey building that opened last year.

He says four people, including two Nepalese security guards, suffered light injuries.

He says some 300 guests staying at an adjoining hotel have been evacuated as investigators probe if the building structure is safe. Television footage showed damaged cars as well as glass, window panes and other debris scattered around the mall’s courtyard. —INTERNET
More heavy downpours warned in Thai 28 provinces

BANGKOK, 28 Sept—Meteorology Department on Wednesday issued a warning over heavy to very heavy rains across Thailand as the tropical depression Haitang would make a landfall in Thai northeastern region on 28 to 29 Sept. Haitang typhoon which has weakened into tropical depression when approaching Thailand was predicted to cause downpours in 28 provinces nationwide including northern Lumpang, Lumpoon, Utraladit Provinces, western Tak Province, central Sukhothai, Pijit, Kumpaengpet, Petchabun, Pitsanulok, Nakhon Sawan, Chainat, Sing Buri, Saraburi provinces, northeastern Loei, Chonkaen, Chaiyaphum, Nakhon Ratchasima, Lopburi provinces, eastern Rayong, Chantaburi, Trad Provinces as well as southern Ranong, Pang Nga, Phuket, Krabi, Trang and Satul Provinces, according to the department report. Residents living near disaster-prone areas such as foothills, low basin and waterways in the aforementioned provinces should brace for the flash floods, the department warned. Small boats should also avoid sailing, it added.

Currently, there are 23 provinces out of 77 provinces still facing floods. Over 2 million people from about 615,497 households have suffered as in some areas flooding situation has continued since 25 July. Flood death toll rose to 166 with 3 missing. Some 112 roads in the country have been destroyed and an estimated 6.16 million rai (9,853 square kilometres) of agricultural areas damaged, a report by Interior Ministry said on Wednesday.

Death toll raises to seven in Western Sahara soccer clash

RABAT, 28 Sept—The death toll from clashes at the weekend after a soccer match in Western Sahara has risen to seven, according to state-run MAP news agency.

Moroccan officials had initially said the violence after Sunday’s match had killed one person, and the following day raised the death toll to two. The match was between Western Sahara said Mouhiedina Dakhla and Chabab Mohammadia, a team from a city near Casablanca.

Moroccan officials said the clashes broke out when supporters leaving the stadium started pelting stones at the opposing team’s supporters.

They said people with criminal records then joined in, attacking passers-by with sticks and knives.

Morocco annexed Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony, in 1975, and since then it has been the subject of a dispute between Morocco’s government and an independence movement backed by neighbouring Algeria.

Can eating fish lower the risk of strokes?

LONDON, 28 Sept—People who eat fish a few times each week are slightly less likely to suffer a stroke than those who only eat a little or none at all, according to an international analysis.

The omega-3 fatty acids in fish may lower stroke risk through their positive effects on blood pressure and cholesterol, wrote Susanna Larsson and Nicola Orsini of Sweden’s Karolinska Institute in the journal Stroke. Their analysis was based on 15 studies conducted in the United States, Europe, Japan and China, each of which asked people how frequently they ate fish, then followed them for between four and 30 years to see who suffered a stroke.

“I think overall, fish does provide a beneficial package of nutrients, in particular the omega-3s, that could explain this lower risk,” said Dariush Mozaffarian, a Harvard School of Public Health epidemiologist whose research was included in the analysis.

“A lot of the evidence comes together suggesting that about two to three servings per week is enough to get the benefit.”

Vitamin D, selenium, and certain types of proteins in fish may also have stroke-related benefits, he added. Data for the analysis came from close to 400,000 people aged 30 to 103.

Over anywhere from a few years to a few decades, about 9,400 people had a stroke. Eating three extra servings of fish each week was linked to a six-percent drop in stroke risk, which translates to one fewer stroke among a hundred people eating extra fish over a lifetime.

The people in each study who ate the most fish were 12 percent less likely to have a stroke than those that ate the least.

Mozaffarian’s report separated the effects of different kinds of fish and found that people who ate more fried fish and fish sandwiches, not surprisingly, didn’t get any stroke benefit.

One dead after mining accident

Yorkshire Ambulance Service said emergency crews were sent to the Kellingley Colliery, outside the Town of Knottingley, after receiving an emergency call at 4:51 pm (1551 GMT).

The ambulance service confirmed a hazardous area response team and a specialist team of ambulance staff trained to work underground were sent to the site. It came less than two weeks after four miners died when they became trapped by flash flooding at the Gleesons Colliery in Cilybebyll, south Wales. The Yorkshire colliery, operated by private firm UK Coal, is the largest remaining deep mine in the county.

Vietnam to host 80th Interpol General Assembly

HANOI, 28 Sept—The 80th General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) will be convened in Vietnam’s Capital on 31 Oct, with participation of more than 1,200 delegates from 188 countries and regions being Interpol members, announced the Vietnamese Ministry of Public Security (MPS) on Wednesday.

Under the theme, “Connecting Police for a Safer World—Strong partnerships, innovation and capacity building”, the conference will review implementation of the related resolutions approved by the Interpol in fighting and preventing crimes, exchanging experience among Interpol members, countries, as well as deploying Interpol’s programmes and plans in the context of globalization and integration, reported MPS.

The event, hosted by Vietnam for the first time, confirmed the country’s pledge in cooperating with international partners to fight and prevent cross-nation crimes, said Major-General Vu Hong Vuong, deputy head of the General Department for Crime Prevention.
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is basic need. Nowadays, information technology is deve-
loping at the speed of light. Smart and affordable persons in the rural areas have easy access to mobile telephones applied with satellite communication system on a wider scale. Thanks to rapid advancements of the information technology, process of today’s world can be dubbed as globalization. The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Resources, and the Ministry of Commerce present essential information for farmers and agricultural producers in Leye Seegpar Journal and Commerce Journal weekly and Trade News journal monthly. Moreover, they can browse Weekly Report and Market News Bulletin through www.commerce.gov.mm and other trade news through www.myanmartradenet.com and www.commercejournal.com.mm. Moreover, news and information are shared through MTRV as much as possible.

However, to enable the rural people to get the latest information of the market in time, Union level ministers including Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation and the region and state governments are to gear up the establishment of information works to be able to serve the interests of the farmers.

Not only the government but also private investment sector is to participate in establishment of media work so as to establish a farmer sector information network with a view to broadening the horizon of rural people in development of agriculture sector.

For Education Dr Mya Aye replied to two questions on education sector raised by two Hluttaw representatives. U Khin Maung Yi (a) U Khin Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency raised a question whether there is a plan to upgrade boarding students at halls of Technological University, Institute of Education, Institute of Economics and Yangon Arts and Science University in Yangon Region. The Union Minister replied that in the past there were 23 men’s and women’s halls at Yangon University, Yangon Institute of Economics and Institute of Education. At present Thiri Hall of Yangon University is used as South-east Asian Ministers of Education Organization-Regional Centre for History and Tradition SEAMIC-HAT. Marlar Hall of Yangon University is used as National Centre for English Language in conducting English diploma and master’s courses, Global English courses and Myanmar-India Centre for English Language Training for students and serve specialemprospective hall. The remaining 21 halls are being used faculty members, staff and doctoral course students from universities and colleges of Yangon Region effectively.

Yangon Institute of Education had four halls in the past. At present, the institute has been added with one male student hall to accommodate 90 male students and 870 female students from countryside. A total of 698 students of preliminary doctoral courses, faculty members and staff of universities from Yangon are accommodated at 10 halls of Yangon University. Six halls of Yangon Institute of Economics are not enough for student accommodation. Therefore, 121 faculty members and staff of universities in Yangon Region are accommodated here.

As part of effort for educational investment of the State, emphasis is being placed on extended construction of universities and colleges, appointment of faculty members and supply of laboratory equipment and teaching aid. Students staying at government boarding houses or private boarding houses are to learn higher education for improvement of their life through consideration. Respective rectors are to meet the owners of boarding houses near university/college together with respective ward/village administrators and coordinates discipline enforcement, accommodation, food and sanitation. Moreover, the boarding house committees are to be formed. Faculty members of the respective university/college check the houses. There is no plan to set up boarding hall at universities/degree colleges and colleges, he replied.

Regarding the question raised by U Kyaw Myint of Nawnghkio Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to upgrade self-reliant primary school in Mannaw village of Taungshae village-track in Nawnghkio Township to a basic education primary school, the Union Minister replied that the ministry made a list of schools needed to be upgraded in accord with the number of school children in primary education level, number of students in nearby schools, difficulties in transportation and condition of school buildings.

For enabling students to pursue primary education in Shan State (North), 69 primary schools were opened for the 2011-12 academic year, and a total 1210 primary schools have been opened so far. The Mannaw self-reliant primary school was not yore. Although languages and religions of all national races residing in Myanmar are different due to places they live, their characters, customs and traditions are similar basically. It is found that, in accord with the abovementioned definition, the word Myanmar is being used firmly up to date since stone inscriptions of Bagan era. The other hand, the origin of the meaning of Myanmar and the history of Myanmar are parallel to each other.

The meaning of Myanmar appeared as a phrase that honours and refers to those of strong and fast in the past. Nowadays, the word Myanmar also represents a character of politeness, a behavior of living together long time ago and foodstuff. For example, the word Myanmar is being used in the phrase honouring the national prestige such as Myanmar style, Myanmar tradition, Myanmar rice, Myanmar curry, Myanmar benevolent attitude, Myanmar spirit and Myanmar scenery.

Politeness, friendly smile and welcome of Myanmar are originated in traditional benevolent attitude of Myanmar. The word Myanmar represents its original abilities of strong and fast and abilities of politeness, friendliness and preserving national race and language. The word Myanmar is being widely used in the area of communication of the people.

In Section 5, subparagraph (a) (i) of Terminological Law 1973, it is enacted that the word Myanmar is inclusive of all national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan and Bamar. So it is found that the word Myanmar is inclusive of all national races. The word Myanmar is proudly used in basic principals of the Constitution as Republic of the Union of Myanmar. That’s why, the word Myanmar should be under legal protection, in order not to tarnish the word Myanmar representing the entire nation with abovementioned prestigious characters.

Laws concerning State Flag, State Seal and National Anthem were promulgated. It is enacted that symbols of State Flag shall be in conformity with Article 438 (a). Law concerning standard size, measurement and colour of the State Flag is promulgated. It is enacted that proportions of State Flag shall be in conformity with Article 438 (a).

Law concerning standard size, measurement and colour of the State Flag is promulgated. Law concerning melody and lyrics of the National Anthem is promulgated. The specific characteristics of State Flag, State Seal and the National Anthem are defined and promulgated. It is found that acts tarnishing image, size and formation of melody are banned in the laws as provision. Partnership Act includes provisions that prohibit use of some words. Section 58 (3) the Act said that a firm shall not have any of the words like Crown, Emperor, Empress, Empire, Imperial, King, Queen, Royal, President, Union which are likely to be associated with or allowed by the government, except written order of the President.

He said that the direction 13 of the the Registration Act of Myanmar states registration officers should refuse registration if the mark is likely to be objectionable on moral or legal grounds, or likely to hurt the religious susceptibilities of any class of citizens of Myanmar. Registration should also be refused where, for example, the document lends itself to use as an instrument of fraud (See page 9)
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or is obscure. Colourable imitation of a currency note should also be refused for registration. And under no circumstances did a marking showing the images of the National Leader be registered. He continued to say that Trade Marks Rules, 200, of the Trade Marks Act of Singapore states that a trade mark should be different from other trademarks and should not be familiar usage and should preferably not be immoral grounds. He continued, to say that the Section 2 of the Lanham Act Section of the U.S. states that a trademark shall be refused registration unless it consists of or comprises immoral, deceptive, or scandalous matter; on matter which may disparage or falsely suggest a connection with persons, institutions, beliefs, or national symbols. The Emblems and Name (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950, India, states that the trademark registry will refuse to register a mark if it consist of or comprises immoral, deceptive, or scandalous matter, or may disparage beliefs.

Therefore, it was found that world countries enacted an Act to prevent the improper use of trademarks, he said. However, “Myanmar” was a common word and the law should prohibit the use of “Myanmar” in trade marks of economic, social and political institutions, companies and organizations not to be disparate or objectionable on national morality, and beliefs of the people, he said. He supported the proposal of Col. Huy Naging.

The Hluttaw agreed and approved the first proposal of Col. Huy Naging asking permission for use of “Myanmar” word in publications with the aim of upholding the national prestige and integrity of all national races and for use of it with integrity related to all national races.

The second proposal of Col. Huy Naging to enact a law prohibit the improper use of “Myanmar” word was put to vote. As the majority voted against the proposal, the Hlutaw did not approve the proposal.

Afterwards, representatives discussed amendment to the proposal under paragraph 52, sub-paragraph (b) of the bill had been discussed yesterday.

The Hluttaw approved that provisions between the paragraph 53 of the Chapter 10 to the paragraph 66 of the Chapter 14 shall be part of the bill as there was no amendments to it.

Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Nankham constituency proposed to substitute “with Hluttaw representatives” for “required” in the paragraph 67 of the original provision. U Pe Thae of Myeikon Constitution proposed to substitute “Hluttaw shall establish Hluttaw offices in every townships where Hluttaw representatives reside” for original provision paragraph 67 and Aung U Thein of Wgangyi Constitution proposed to substitute “necessary” for the “required townships” of the original provision paragraph 67 and to approved the paragraph as the sub-paragraph (a) of the paragraph 67 and to add a paragraph “Hluttaw shall open its Hluttaw offices in under developed (D) and (C) level townships on priority when it opens Hluttaw offices.”

Regarding the three proposals, Secretary of the Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin the first proposal of U Aung Aung won the majority votes and the second one should not be included in the bill.

When the proposals of Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn, U Pe Thae and U Aung U Thein were put to the vote separately, the proposals of Aung Aung won the majority votes and the Hluttaw approved the proposals of U Aung U Thein. U Khan Maung Shwe of Tamu constituency proposed to add “that the Hluttaw” behind “Hluttaw representatives offices” in the paragraph 68 of the original provision. Secretary and Secretary of the Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin agreed the proposal as it was suitable for the bill.

Therefore, the Hluttaw approved the proposal of U Khan Maung Shwe.

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State leaders and high level delegations from our neighbouring countries as well as from other regions and international organizations. In return, President U Thein Sein paid official visits to the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of China. The President also attended the 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta.

Mr. President,

The new government has launched a series of economic, social and policy reforms to improve the socio-economic life the people. One of those measures is stepping up its efforts in reduction of poverty.

In Myanmar about 70% of the population resides in rural areas, engages in agricultural and livestock farming. In order to boost the production and to enhance the economic development of rural area, the government has adopted forward looking economic policies. These policies will lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth which will in turn increase employment opportunities, promote agriculture development and reduce poverty. In doing so, the new government has adopted the National Rural Development and Poverty Reduction Plan to alleviate poverty and to improve the livelihood of people residing in rural areas. The Central Committee and Work Committees were formed to supplement the eight tasks laid down in accordance with the National Plan.

Furthermore, the new government has increased pension allowances of retired personnel in commensurate with the changing economic and social conditions of the country. With the view to encouraging foreign trade, the government reduced export tax from 8% to 2% and granted exemption of export tax on all agricultural and timber products.

It is regrettable that the Government’s efforts to improve the livelihood of the people are hampered by the economic sanctions. Therefore, I would like to call upon countries that have imposed unilateral sanctions on Myanmar to lift their restrictions. It will also contribute to our efforts in achieving our MDG targets.

Mr. President,

Myanmar attaches great importance to the promotion and protection of human rights. The provisions of the fundamental rights of its citizens are guaranteed by relevant provisions of the State Constitution. With a view to promoting and safeguarding the fundamental rights of the citizen, as prescribed in the Constitution, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission was formed on 5th September 2011.

Myanmar’s cooperation with the United Nations has been clearly demonstrated by the Government’s acceptance of the fourth visit of Mr Quintana, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in Myanmar in August 2011.

Mr. Quintana welcomed and recognized the steps taken by the Government to improve the human rights situation in Myanmar. He also welcomed the Government’s stated commitments to reform and priorities set out by the President.

Myanmar has been cooperating closely with the Human Rights Council. The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Report of Myanmar was submitted and reviewed by the UPR Working Group last January and adopted at the 17th Session of the Human Rights Council last June. Myanmar has agreed to accept 52.4 percent of the total recommendations.

We strongly believe that the UPR process is the most dependable and uncontroversial monitoring mechanism to address and rectify the human rights situations of all countries.

Mr. President,

U Maung Toe of Minha Constituency proposed to substitute “to the financial commission” for “to those who may concern” in the paragraph 69 of the original provision. Another proposal for “Hluttaw shall report the budget of the Hluttaw to the Union Hluttaw without amending it.” Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Nankham constituency proposed to substitute “Hluttaw shall draw budgets for Hluttaw Office, Hluttaw representatives offices and matters related to works the Hluttaw to the department concerned” for the paragraph 69 of the original provision.

Regarding the above two amendments, Secretary of the Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin replied that the first proposal of U Maung Toe was suitable and the second one should not yet be included in the bill and the proposal of Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn should not yet be included.

Dr. Sai Kyaw Ohn accepted the answers of the Hluttaw Rights Committee.

The Hluttaw decided to approve the first proposal of U Maung Toe and to include the second one in the roles of the bill and not to approve the proposal of Dr. Sai Kyaw Ohn.

The Hluttaw also approved the provisions between the paragraph 70 and 73 as parts of the bill as there was no amendments to the provisions.

The proposal “title and introduction of the draft should be the parts of the bill” was approved with the agreement of the Hluttaw.

Secretary of the Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin submitted a proposal to approved the amended bill of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Hluttaw, made decision to approve the proposal in accordance with the Rules 139, Sub-rule (d).

Today, 73 paragraphs of the 14 Chapters of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill were approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw. The 27th day second regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw came to an end at 3 pm and the session continues tomorrow.—APN

As for national reconsolidation, the Union Government offered an olive branch to all the national race armed groups by decreeing Announcement No.1/2011 on 18 August and some of those groups have accepted the Government’s offer. The President also granted an amnesty on 16 May 2011 and 20, 000 inmates were released till end of July.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the General Assembly that the President in Exercising the mandate vested upon him by the Constitution, will further grant an amnesty at an appropriate time.

The President invited people to work together for the interest of the nation despite differences. Accordingly he received Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on 19 August 2011 and had cordial and candid discussions to find out potential common grounds to cooperate in the interest of the nation and the people, putting aside different views.

These are some of the significant progress which we have achieved in our democratization process.

Mr. President,

As an agrarian-based country, Myanmar is following with keen interest on issues surrounding the effects of climate change. Since agriculture is highly dependent on the climate, the implications of climatic situation on agriculture cannot be ignored. Lately, floods and droughts have devastated crops and agricultural production in our region. It is evident that developing countries are more vulnerable and will be the first to suffer from global warming and climate change.

We, therefore, look forward to reaching tangible outcomes at the upcoming 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties (COP7) to the Kyoto Protocol in

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Durban, South Africa. Although the road to Durban will be a difficult one, my delegation shares the view that our discussions on the issue should be placed within the context of promoting the sustainable development. In this regard, we would also like to stress that all three pillars, namely economic development, social development and environment protection need to be promoted in an integrated, coordinated and balanced manner.

Mr. President,

Myanmar strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In today’s world, terrorism and transnational organized crime are increasingly threatening the humane society. Myanmar was also among the countries which had been the victims of the scourg of terrorism. In this regard, we would like to express our deepest condolences to the bereaved families of the victims of terrorism around the world. We welcome the UN Secretary-General’s commitment to conduct a global threat review to re-assess security threats in the wake of deadly attack in Abuja, Nigeria.

Myanmar stands ready to cooperate at regional and international levels to prevent and combat terrorism and transnational organized crimes. Without stability and peaceful environment, there would not be sustainable development for the people in a country as well as in the region.

Mr. President,

The Millennium Declaration set 2015 as the target for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which was formulated to address the welfare and the needs of the people around the world. Despite some progress, the development efforts are hindered by various reasons such as, slow economic growth, diminishing resources, increasing food prices and ongoing concern over food security, increasing frequencies of natural disasters as well as the challenges posed by climate change.

Each country has the primary responsibility to generate ways and means of social and economic development. However, national efforts for achievement of economic and social development need to be supported by the international community.

For our part, Myanmar is determined to promote better living standards and equitable development of its people. To generate income, microfinancing schemes are introduced at the grassroots level. According to UNDP, the poverty rate in Myanmar has decreased from 32% to 26% in recent years. However, we have to redouble our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goal-1 by the year 2015.

Mr. President,

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is the cornerstone of international efforts to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament and to promote cooperation and ensure access to nuclear energy. As a signatory to the NPT, Myanmar remains committed to the three pillars of the treaty. Being a strong advocate to nuclear disarmament, Myanmar has been tabling the resolution on nuclear disarmament every year since 1995 which enjoys wide support of the member states.

Myanmar firmly opposes the proliferation and production of nuclear weapons and strongly supports any effort for the realization of the world free from threats of nuclear weapons and its byproducts.

Mr. President,

In the recent past, the world around us has changed. We have seen changes in the governments and political landscapes.

Myanmar has transformed towards a democratic nation in a smooth and peaceful manner. We have now embarked on a series of reform process in various sectors to bring about democratization, economic development and improved livelihood of the people.

The steps taken by the government of Myanmar are concrete, visible and irreversible. We will ensure that the reform process is incremental, systematic and dynamic. Myanmar has strong determination to continue implementing the democratization process, amidst all the challenges.

At this critical juncture, the encouragement, understanding and support of the international community are crucial to Myanmar’s transition to democracy.—MNA

Signing of exchanges of notes for Japan’s Grant Aid Assistance

Union Minister for PNED and for L&F U Tin Naing Thein and Japanese Ambassador Mr Takashi Saito sign MoU on Human Resource Development Scholarship and Provision of Equipment for Rural Water Supply Project In the Central Dry Zone.—MNA

Indonesia to use atmosphere radar to observe monsoon winds

Jakarta, 28 Sept—Indonesia’s National Aeronautics and Space Agency (LAPAN) is developing a model Indonesian Monsoon Index using data from the Equatorial Atmosphere Radar (EAR) to detect monsoons to determine the beginning of the planting season, the Jakarta Post reported here on Monday.

With Indonesia’s location on the equator and huge ocean mass, the country has a role as one of the largest “heat keepers” for giant cloud formations. The rotating antenna radar helps reveal the dynamics of Indonesia’s atmosphere. It can monitor wind turbulence and velocity in 3D from 1.5 to 20 kilometres, or from troposphere to below stratosphere. “The radar can detect strong monsoon signal in the stratosphere layer and beyond. It can also be used to see the East-West wind movement, especially the Walker Circulation, which is one important parameter to estimate El Nino and Southern Oscillation in Indonesia,” LAPAN researcher Eddy Hermawan said. He added that before they apply the EAR results to sectors such as agriculture, forestry and plantations, they should ideally merge the data with Indonesian climate models. He explained that the EAR radar was not a super radar and that they should incorporate the data recorded by the EAR with other equipment, such as a radiometer, an optical rain gauge and a micro rain radar.—Xinhua

The World Media Summit Presidium Meeting is held in Beijing, capital of China, on 27 Sept, 2011. Leaders or representatives of 11 world mainstream media attended the meeting opening on Tuesday. —XINHUA
Japan’s post-tsunami tourism haunted by atomic fears

TOKYO, 28 Sept—Seagulls flock around passengers on the deck of a cruise boat, hoping for scraps; hotels and inns show no-vacancy signs and fresh oysters are served in seaside restaurants. But despite an appearance of normality, business is far from booming in Matsushima, where serene pine-covered islands have attracted generations of tourists to an area classed as one of Japan’s three most beautiful spots.

The guesthouses and hotels — in a district the Michelin Blue guide gives its maximum three stars — owe most of their business to workers helping to rebuild coastal communities shattered by the 11 March tsunami. Matsushima escaped the worst of the disaster, its island-dotted bay breaking up the ferocity of the giant waves that devastated hundreds of kilometres (miles) of picturesque Pacific coast. But the tourists on whom Matsushima’s economy depends are few and far between.

Fears about the effect of leaking radiation from the crippled Fukushima nuclear plant 110 kilometres (70 miles) south have all but stopped the influx of visitors from China, Hong Kong, South Korea and Taipei.

Domestic visitor numbers have also been badly hit.

“I don’t think tourism will be booming again here like before unless the nuclear problem is contained and people think it is safe to visit,” said Kenji Fukui, executive director of the Matsushima Tourist Association.

Cargo handling at S Korea’s seaports grows in August

SEOUL, 28 Sept—The volume of cargo handled at South Korea’s seaports rose 7.6 percent in August year on year thanks to an increase of transshipment cargo, the government said Wednesday.

The amount of cargo processed at seaports across the country stood at 105.51 million tons in August, up 7.6 percent from the same month last year, according to the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs.

Cement, metal ore, and automobiles were the main growth drivers, with each increasing 15.1 percent, 14.7 percent, and 12.7 percent, respectively, over the same period.

The volume of container cargo handled at seaports also surged 6.6 percent to nearly 1.78 million 20-foot-equivalent units (TEUs), the ministry said.

Asia’s first Organic World Congress opens in S Korea

SEOUL, 28 Sept—The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) Organic World Congress kicked off on Wednesday in the City of Namyangju, just east of Seoul, serving as Asia’s first gathering of world organic producers.

The Organic World Congress is a symposium that moves from continent to continent every three years, featuring various programmes including themed conferences, organic food fairs, and IFOAM general meetings.

The 17th edition of the Organic World Congress, entitled Organic is Life, marks the first time that the symposium is being held in Asia. The symposium, which runs from 28 Sept to 2 Oct, will be attended by about 1,300 scholars from some 80 countries and is expected to draw about 200,000 visitors from the public.

On the sidelines of the symposium, the city will also host other events such as the G-Food Show and Organic Fair.

Ireland’s Shannon Free Zone encourages Chinese investment

DUBLIN, 28 Sept—Ireland, which waded through four years of economic recession, greatly valued foreign direct investment and it hoped to see more Chinese investment, said an official of a business park outside Dublin.

“We would very much welcome Chinese companies using Shannon as an access point into Europe,” said Vincent Cunnane, chief executive of Shannon Development, in an interview with Xinhua.

With exports in the country on the increase, the Irish government has been stressing the importance of foreign direct investment to aid Ireland’s recovery and the country has several export zones to choose from, said Cunnane.

Located in the west of Ireland, The Shannon Free Zone is the country’s largest multi-sectoral business park outside of Dublin and employs nearly 7,000 people. Over one hundred companies have invested in the zone which generates sales of more than 3 billion euro each year.

The Shannon Free Zone has a long standing history with China and Cunnane said he welcomes any Chinese investment in the zone and further cooperation between the two countries.
100 swimmers bitten in one weekend after explosion in dangerous fish population at lake resort

JOSE DE FREITAS, 28 Sept—A lake used by swimmers in Brazil has been attacked by piranhas that have injured more than 100 people. Visitors to the inland Barragem do Bezerro dam, close to the town of Jose de Freitas in the Piaui Province, were left with bitten heels and toes after the predators attacked due to a lack of food. Some needed hospital treatment for their injuries in the state capital of Piaui, around 50km from the site.

A spokesman for the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources said that the piranhas were both adult and fingerlings. Romuldo Mafra added that the attack happened because of a lack of preda- tors for the fish and their quest for food. The area has been beset by problems in recent months due to the fish, who are in abundance at the dam. Authorities have attempted to control them by placing 100,000 tilapia into the water to both attack the piranhas and act as food. They hope to control the population with a further 200,000 fish. The same measures are being repeated at another lake in recent weeks.


cancer cost ‘crisis’ warning from oncologists

LONDON, 28 Sept—The cost of treating cancer in the developed world is spiralling and is “heading towards a crisis”, an international team of researchers says. Their Lancet Oncol- ogy report says there is a “culture of excess” with insufficient evidence about the “value” of new treat- ments and technologies. It says the number of cancer patients and the cost of treating each one is increasing. It argues for reducing the use and analysing the cost of cancer services. About 12 million people worldwide are diagnosed with cancer each year. That figure is expected to reach 27 million by 2030. The cost of new cancer cases is already estimated to be about £185bn ($286bn) a year.

A group of 37 leading experts from around the world say the burden of cancer is growing and becoming a major financial issue. Their report says most developed countries dedicate 4% and 7% of their healthcare budgets to dealing with cancer. “The issue that concerns economists and policymakers is not just the amount of money spent on healthcare, but also the amount of increase in healthcare spending or what has become known as the curve.” It says the UK’s total spending on breast cancer has increased by about 10% in each of the past four years. “In general, increases in the cost of healthcare are driven by innovation. We spend more because we can do more to help patients.” For example, the number of cancer drugs available in the UK has risen from 35 in the 1970s to nearly 100, but the report warns they can be “exceedingly expensive.”

Digital technology brings new life to Dead Sea Scrolls

NEW YORK, 28 Sept—For decades after they were discovered in a cave, the Dead Sea Scrolls were allowed to be examined closely only by fewer than a couple dozen scholars and archaeologists. Now, with infrared- and computer-enhanced photography, anyone with a computer can view these 2,000-year-old relics, which include the oldest known copies of biblical text and a window on the world and times of Jesus.

High-quality digitized images of five of the 950 manuscripts were posted for free online for the first time this week by Google and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, where the scrolls are housed.

Frog killer immune genes revealed

LONDON, 28 Sept—Scientists have taken a big step toward understanding why some frogs survive the fungal disease chytridiomycosis while others quickly die. A group from Cornell University, US, identified genetic fac- tors that seem to make some individual frogs immune. This could improve captive breeding schemes, the team writes in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Chytridiomycosis is slowly spreading across the world, and has already sent a number of species extinct. Just two years ago, research- ers discovered how it kills — by damaging the skin so that key nutrients cannot pass through, resulting even- tually in cardiac arrest.

Performers of the Tujia ethnic group dance at the opening ceremony of the Second Ecological and Cultural Tourism Festival in Enshi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture, central China’s Hubei Province, on 26 Sept. 2011. —Xinhua

the lowland leopard frog may have answered the question of why some die and others live.—Internet
**Pit bull credited with saving fallen woman**

A Pennsylvania man said he is proud of his 2-year-old pit bull for saving the life of an elderly woman who fell into a ditch. Jimmie Belchick of Carnegie said Cobain, his American pit bull terrier, a breed often in the news for attacking people, found the woman crumpled against a grate at the bottom of a ditch about 1 pm Saturday and quickly ran to alert his master, WTAE-TV, Pittsburgh, reported Tuesday. “My dog put Lassie to shame. He came and alerted me when somebody needed help and what more can you ask for out of your dog,” Belchick said.

**Crocodile turns orange after eating filter**

An Australian woman whose 8-foot crocodile turned bright orange after eating the water filter from its tank does not appear to be otherwise affected.

Tracey Sandstrom, owner of Roaming Reptiles in Melbourne, said Snappy the crocodile turned a bright orange colour after making a meal out of the water filter and causing the pH levels in its water to shift, the Melbourne Herald Sun reported Monday. “Snappy’s pretty territorial and he attacked the filter one day and a few weeks after that, I noticed he was orange,” Sandstrom said. “It doesn’t seem to have affected him at all. He’s still got a healthy appetite … and [is] doing everything he always does.” Graham Webb, a crocodile expert from Darwin, said he examined pictures of Snappy and the reptile appears perfectly healthy.

**What's next for 3D re-releases**

LOS ANGELES, 28 Sept.—So what other 3D converted classics will follow Disney’s “The Lion King” into theaters? For many in Hollywood, 3D conversion had degenerated into “C-word” status until Disney’s mega-successful re-release of “The Lion King” two weeks ago re-kindled both imagination and profit motive. Before the 17-year-old “Lion King” grossed more than $64 million while winning the box office two straight weekends, three similar conversion projects — for James Cameron’s 1998 smash “Titanic,” George Lucas’s “Star Wars” series and Tony Scott’s 1986 fighter-jet classic “Top Gun” — were regarded with considerable skepticism. But now the studios are rummaging through their catalogs with heightened urgency, looking for classics will follow Disney’s “The Lion King” into theaters? For many in Hollywood, 3D conversion had degenerated into “C-word” status until Disney’s mega-successful re-release of “The Lion King” two weeks ago re-kindled both imagination and profit motive. Before the 17-year-old “Lion King” grossed more than $64 million while winning the box office two straight weekends, three similar conversion projects — for James Cameron’s 1998 smash “Titanic,” George Lucas’s “Star Wars” series and Tony Scott’s 1986 fighter-jet classic “Top Gun” — were regarded with considerable skepticism. But now the studios are rummaging through their catalogs with heightened urgency, looking for what more can you ask for out of your dog,” Belchick said.

**Two-faced cat sets record as oldest living “Janus” cat**

Frank and Louise is the world’s oldest two-faced cat, which is not to say he is decrepit or insincere. Rather, the fluffy, gray feline with two mouths, two noses and three eyes turned 12 years old this month, setting the record for “longest surviving Janus cat,” Sara Wilcox, a Guinness World Records spokeswoman said on Tuesday. The name “Janus” cat was coined by British zoologist Dr Karl Shuker, based on the two-faced Roman god of transitions, gates and doorways. Frank and Louise has a case of craniofacial duplication, an extremely rare congenital condition resulting from a protein with the odd name of sonic hedgehog homolog (SHH). The disorder, also known as diprosopia, can cause part or all of an individual’s face to be duplicated on its head. It has been recorded multiple times in the domestic cat (Felis catus), but few of the resulting two-faced kittens make it through infancy. The Facebook logo is displayed on a computer screen in Brussels on 21 April, 2010.

**Handout image of cat with two faces for CAT/TWOFACE**

survive into adulthood, Wilcox said. Frank and Louise was born on 8 September, 1999 and his remarkable life will be commemorated in Guinness World Records’ new 2012 edition, Wilcox said.

**Beastie Boys, The Cure get Rock and Roll Hall of Fame nods**

NEW YORK, 28 Sept.—The Beastie Boys, The Cure and Donovan were nominated Tuesday for induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland next year. Also nominated are Eric B & Rakim, Guns N’ Roses, Heart, Joan Jett and The Blackhearts, Freddie King, Laura Nyro, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Rufus with Chaka Khan, The Small Faces/The Faces, The Spinners, Donna Summer and War. “The 2012 nominees embody the broad scope of what ‘rock ‘n’ roll means,” Joel Peresman, president and chief executive officer of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Foundation, said in a statement Tuesday. “From vocal groups to hip hop, from singer-songwriters to hard rocking artists, this group represents the spirit of what we celebrate at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.” Ballots will be sent to more than 500 voters, who will select artists to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at the 27th annual Induction Ceremony to be held 14 April. To be eligible for nomination, an individual artist or band must have released a first single or album at least 25 years prior to the year of nomination. All inductees are ultimately represented in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland. —Internet

**Robbed of phone, Tennessee woman summons help on Facebook**

Some people have complained about changes in Facebook, but not Rolanda Hill, who used the social media site to seek help after an armed robber broke into her home and stole her cell phone. “When she went to open the door, a gymnast stuck a gun through the door and forced his way in,” police spokeswoman Sergeant Jerri Weary said in a statement. “Once inside, he demanded her money and held her at gunpoint while he took it and the cell phone.” After the robber left, Hill reported the crime to her Facebook friends and asked them to call police. Police responded and on Monday were looking for the robber.

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**Better late than never”: Polanski gets his award**

ZURICH, 28 Sept.—“Better late than never” was how director Roman Polanski summed up his feelings on Tuesday as he received an award from the Zurich film festival two years after being arrested on his way to pick up the prize.

Polanski was intercepted at Zurich airport by Swiss police on 26 September, 2009 and held in prison and later house arrest until Swiss authorities decided in 2010 not to extradite him to the United States due to technical faults in the US request.

The Oscar-winning Polish-French film maker, who had held up in his chalet in luxury Swiss resort Gstaad for years before the arrest, is wanted in the United States for the alleged rape of a minor in 1977. —Reuters

**The Blackhearts, Freddie King, Laura Nyro, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Rufus with Chaka Khan, The Small Faces/The Faces, The Spinners, Donna Summer and War.**

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**Carnegie said Cobain, his American pit bull terrier, a breed often in the news for attacking people, found the woman crumpled against a grate at the bottom of a ditch about 1 pm Saturday and quickly ran to alert his master, WTAE-TV, Pittsburgh, reported Tuesday. “My dog put Lassie to shame. He came and alerted me when somebody needed help and what more can you ask for out of your dog,” Belchick said.**

**What’s next for 3D re-releases**

LOS ANGELES, 28 Sept.—So what other 3D converted classics will follow Disney’s “The Lion King” into theaters? For many in Hollywood, 3D conversion had degenerated into “C-word” status until Disney’s mega-successful re-release of “The Lion King” two weeks ago re-kindled both imagination and profit motive. Before the 17-year-old “Lion King” grossed more than $64 million while winning the box office two straight weekends, three similar conversion projects — for James Cameron’s 1998 smash “Titanic,” George Lucas’s “Star Wars” series and Tony Scott’s 1986 fighter-jet classic “Top Gun” — were regarded with considerable skepticism. But now the studios are rummaging through their catalogs with heightened urgency, looking for other conversion and re-release candidates.

Cameron — who said he’s spending $18 million and over a year’s worth of time to convert “Titanic” — told TheWrap last week that studios’ reservations about 3D conversions “have pretty much evaporated” in the wake of “Lion King’s” extraordinary two-week haul.

**Roman god of transitions, gates and doorways. Frank and Louise has a case of craniofacial duplication, an extremely rare congenital condition resulting from a protein with the odd name of sonic hedgehog homolog (SHH). The disorder, also known as diprosopia, can cause part or all of an individual’s face to be duplicated on its head. It has been recorded multiple times in the domestic cat (Felis catus), but few of the resulting two-faced kittens make it through infancy.**

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**Man United salvages draw; Tevez refuses to play**

LONDON 28 Sept — There was turmoil for both Manchester clubs in the Champions League on Tuesday night, with United wasting a two-goal lead in a 3-3 draw with Basel and Carlos Tevez refusing to play for City in its 2-0 defeat at Bayern Munich. Ahead 2-0 after Danny Welbeck scored twice in a two-minute span in the first half at Old Trafford, United allowed goals by Fabian Frei in the 50th minute and Alexander Frei in the 60th, and then a penalty kick by Alexander Frei in the 76th after Antonio Valencia fouled Marco Streller. United salvaged its second straight tie in Group C when Ashley Young scored on a header in the 90th minute.

**Toronto FC ties Pumas 1-1**

TORONTO, 28 Sept — Defender Marco Palacios scored on a header early in the second half to give Pumas a 1-1 tie with Toronto FC on Tuesday in a CONCACAF Champions League Group C match. Toronto had taken a 1-0 lead at BMO Field against the Mexican team in the first half on a goal by Peri Marosevic. The draw gives Pumas eight points from its five games in the group while Toronto and FC Dallas each have seven. FC Dallas will play winless Tauro FC of Panama on Wednesday in the fifth game for both teams. Toronto plays at Dallas on 18 Oct in the final Group C match for both teams. Palacios tied it with a header from the center of the box in the 51st minute. It came off a cross Erick Vera after a corner kick.

**Donald’s birdie putt could be historic**

ATLANTA, 28 Sept — That birdie putt by Luke Donald on the final hole of the Tour Championship might turn out to be bigger than anyone imagined. It wasn’t enough for Donald to capture the FedEx Cup and its $10 million prize. He wound up one shot away from joining the sudden-death playoff at East Lake. But it gave him a three-way tie for third, which was worth $418,667.

Had he missed the putt, Donald would have been in a four-way tie for fifth, which would have paid $284,000. That made it a putt worth $134,667, and it could make all the difference in Donald’s pursuit of trying to become the first player to win money titles on both sides of the Atlantic. — Internet

**Napoli looking good after dominating Villarreal**

NAPLES, 28 Sept — Napoli took a big step towards qualifying for the knockout stages by dominating Villarreal in a 2-0 Champions League victory at the San Paolo stadium here on Tuesday.

It means the Italians trail Group A leaders Bayern Munich by two points after two games but, crucially, they are respectively third and four points ahead of Manchester City and Villarreal on their debut in the competition in its current format.

Marek Hamsik opened the scoring and Edinson Cavani added a penalty inside the first 17 minutes past the start of the first period controlled by the hosts.

Napoli coach Walter Mazzarri said that, but for tiredness, his players could have secured a more emphatic victory.

“The players knew that with a third goal there would have been no way back and they did take the risk of trying to get the third on the counter,” he said.— Internet

**Kanepi beats Wozniacki to reach quarterfinals**

TOKYO, 28 Sept — Kaia Kanepi eliminated top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki 7-5, 1-6, 6-4 on Wednesday to advance to the quarterfinals of the Pan Pacific Open. The 43rd-ranked Kanepi rallied from a three-game deficit down the third set and won the match when she broke the defending champion with a forehand down the line.

After a sluggish start, Wozniacki dominated the second set but was unable to keep the momentum in the third when she was broken three times by the Estonian player.

Kanepi will face ninth-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland in the Thursday’s quarterfinals. Radwanska beat eighth-seeded Jelena Jankovic of Serbia 2-6, 6-4, 6-0. Also, second-seeded Maria Sharapova earned a 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4) because of a sore back.

Bill Haas hoists the FedEx Cup from a stage overlooking the 18th green after winning the Tour Championship

**Haas selected to Presidents Cup team**

ATLANTA, 28 Sept — Turns out that sudden-death playoff Bill Haas won at East Lake was worth more than $11.44 million. It earned him a spot in the Presidents Cup. US captain Fred Couples used his two picks Tuesday on Tiger Woods and Haas, who won the Tour Championship for his first win of the year. Couples took Haas, the son of vice captain Jay Haas, over Keegan Bradley, whose two wins this year include the PGA Championship.

Pumas Unam Dario Verson (left) leaps for the ball against Toronto FC Andy Iro (right) during their CONCACAF Champions League match. — Internet

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**Napoli’s coach Walter Mazzarri gestures during their Champions League Group A football match against Villarreal.** — Internet

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Luke Donald, of England, hits from the sand on the ninth hole during the final round of the Tour Championship golf tournament.— Internet
Weather forecast for 29th September, 2011

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Bay Inference
Weather is partly cloudy in the North Bay. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Local - (09:00am ~ 11:00am) MST
Overseas Transmission - (29-9-11 09:30 am ~ 30-9-11 09:30 am) MST

Jelena Docks reunites with father after 8 years

MELBOURNE, 28 Sept—Troubled Australian tennis player Jelena Docks says she has reconciled with her father and former coach, Damir, after an eight-year rift.

Docks, 28, who was ranked as high as No. 4 as a teenager during her peak, split with her father after a series of embarrassing public indiscretions including accusing Australian Open organizers of fixing the 2001 tournament draw, a vocal complaint over the price of food at the US Open and his ejection from Wimbledon for being drunk and disorderly on the press balcony. She went on to accuse him of years of humiliation and abuse as her coach.

Damir Docks was released after almost a year in jail last year for threatening to blow up the Australian Embassy in Belgrade and having an illegal cache of weapons at his house.

Australian tennis player Jelena Docks

Lille fail to shake off draw kings tag

TRABZON, 28 Sept—French champions Lille once again let slip a lead on Tuesday as they recorded a fifth successive draw, 1-1 away to Turkish side Trabzonspor in Champions League group B.

Lille — who had been held 2-2 by CSKA Moscow in their opening group match after leading 2-0 — led through a first-half strike by Moussa Sow but a 75th minute penalty by Argentinian Gustavo Colman secured a point for the hosts.

The draw see Trabzonspor top the group with four points ahead of 2010 Champions League winners Inter Milan — who beat CSKA Moscow 3-2 earlier — while Lille are on two points.

Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 29 September, 2011

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Myanmar has transformed towards a democratic nation in a smooth and peaceful manner. New government has launched a series of economic, social and policy reforms to improve socio-economic life of the people. According to UNDP, poverty rate in Myanmar has decreased from 32% to 26% in recent years.

Mr. President,

Allow me to extend our congratulations to Your Excellency on your assumption of the Presidency of the Sixty-Sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly. I am confident that with your wide knowledge, experience and diplomatic skills, we will be able to achieve fruitful results in our deliberations in addressing important and critical issues on the international agenda.

I would also like to convey our appreciation to His Excellency Mr Joseph Deiss for his able leadership and contributions to the 65th United Nations General Assembly. May I also take this opportunity to once again extend our congratulations to the United Nations Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-Moon for his re-election and we wish to express our sincere appreciation to him for his dedication and untiring efforts for the cause of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

Since I am addressing this august Assembly for the first time after the emergence of the Constitutional Government and as the elected representatives are exercising their democratic rights in the legislative bodies.

The President in his inaugural speech to the first regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2011, stated that all elected Hluttaw members, including the President are all duty-bound to honour and safeguard the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The new Government pledged that all citizens shall enjoy equal rights in terms of law and is determined to reinforced the judicial power. The government also assured the nation to amend and adopt new laws as may deem necessary to implement the provisions of the fundamental rights of the citizens.

Mr. President,

With the view to maintaining and promoting friendly relations with all countries in the world, Myanmar is reaching out to the international community. In the past five months, Myanmar has received the visits of (See page 9).